

Meshel vows to fight
moves to oust himBy JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Histadrut Secretary-General Yehoram Meshel yesterday pledged to fight back against Labour Party members demanding his resignation in the wake of the Levinson affair. (Peres-Rabin P. 3.)

Meshel insisted that he had not acted maliciously to trap Bank Hapoalim's former chairman Yacov Levinson, who committed suicide last Thursday in the midst of a police investigation into alleged irregularities during his tenure at the bank.

Returning from a week's visit to Romania as guest of that country's Labour Party, Meshel said those Labour members demanding his resignation were taking advantage of the tragedy to further their own political goals.

"There is nothing more serious than this," he said.

The Labour Federation leader seemed confident that he had handled the affair correctly and promised that when the seven days of mourning for Levinson are over, he will present a detailed, documented report to prove that he had acted "like a human being and the Histadrut secretary-general."

"I never sought to accuse Levinson of anything and I never did anything to harm him nor to maliciously trap him. But for people in public positions, there is a limit to friendship," he said, alluding to his action in handing the matter over to the attorney-general. The attorney-general later forwarded the material to the police.

Asked how he would protect himself against charges that his ac-

tion led to Levinson's death, he said: "Who says I have to protect myself? Maybe those who say so have to protect themselves? Why did they remain silent when the decisions (which led to handing the material over to the attorney-general) were taken? Did I take that decision alone?"

Meshel lashed out at his critics who claimed to be Levinson's best friends. Referring to himself sometimes in the third person, he attacked those who "when the dead body was lying in front of them... did not hesitate to begin political accounts with the Histadrut secretary-general — in the dead man's name... under no circumstances will I remain silent regarding those who tried to make political capital from such a tragic death while I was on a political mission."

Meshel would neither confirm nor deny there was an agreement with the chairman of the Histadrut Trade Union Department, Israel Kassar, whereby he would step aside in April to let Kassar assume the top job. "It is customary that one who concludes an agreement with another keeps it to himself," Meshel said.

Nor would Meshel confirm reports that he wanted the post of chairman of the board of directors of Bank Hapoalim in exchange for agreeing to resign. The job is currently held by Efraim Reiner, considered to be a Levinson man, and unconfirmed reports suggested the drive against Levinson was designed to weaken that group's power in the bank.

Asked about the matter, Meshel (Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)



Striking Tel Aviv firemen enjoy the sunshine yesterday at one of the city's stations. Later in the day, they vowed to abandon the stations after Interior Minister Yosef Burg authorized the municipality to issue back-to-work orders. (Story — page 2) (IPPA)

Second day of talks in Amman

Hussein, Arafat discuss joint moves

AMMAN (AP). — King Hussein and Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasser Arafat met for the second straight day yesterday to discuss a possible joint strategy for solving the Palestinian problem.

Officials said the two held talks during lunch at the royal palace without their respective aides.

The officials said the talks aimed at "setting up the principle for future joint moves for a solution of the Palestinian problem and for the liberation of the land."

The talks focused on the idea of a confederation between Jordan and the Palestinians of the West Bank "once the liberation of the land is achieved," the officials said.

The principle of a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation was approved by the Palestine National

Council at its meeting in February 1983, and the dialogue between Arafat and the king was endorsed last week by the central committee of Fatah, the largest faction of the PLO.

Syrian-backed dissident factions of Fatah, however, have denounced the talks.

Arafat met yesterday morning with Prime Minister Ahmed Obeidat. Arafat, the king and their delegations were expected to meet last night.

Arafat, who arrived in Amman on Sunday for his first visit to Jordan in 10 months, met Hussein a few hours after his arrival. Sources said the first session was to lay the groundwork for a Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue.

Talks between the PLO and Hu-

sein were suspended in April after both sides failed to reach a common position on peace initiatives in the Middle East, particularly on the Reagan peace plan put forward in September 1983.

Palestinian officials here said the dialogue would "pick up where it was suspended last April," but did not say if the Reagan plan was included in the agenda.

The PLO has rejected the plan because it does not recognize the organization and does not provide for a Palestinian state. Hussein considers the plan "frozen" because of the inability of the U.S. to put an end to the establishment of Israeli settlements on the West Bank and to secure an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 4)

Baghdad: Hormuz blockade starts

Iraqi jets raid tankers at vital Kharg oil port

BAGHDAD. — Iraqi air force jets yesterday raided an undisclosed number of oil tankers anchored in Iran's strategic Persian Gulf oil terminal of Kharg Island. It was officially announced here last night.

A military spokesman, who did not disclose the types or nationalities of the tankers reportedly attacked, said the air raid "signals the beginning of the blockade which we have decided to impose on this area."

Iran had previously countered Iraqi threats to attack Kharg by pledging to close down the strategic Hormuz Straits at the mouth of the gulf if Iraq interferes with Iranian oil movements.

About 20 per cent of the western world's oil imports pass through Hormuz, which the U.S., with warships on both sides of the 39 km-wide strait, has pledged to keep open.

There was no immediate word on the damage caused in the raid on Kharg, although the Iraqi spokesman referred to "destructive strikes."

The Iraqi spokesman indicated that Baghdad's aim was to drive Iran to the negotiating table in a bid to end the war. "We will continue dealing our blows on the Kharg region, which has been declared a war operation zone, until the Iranian regime ends its aggression... and accepts the UN Security Council's resolution calling for an end to the war and a solution to the problems by peaceful means."

In Washington, a State Department press office spokeswoman,

Diane Kelly, said last night Iraq had apparently attacked Iranian oil tankers at Kharg Island. "We don't have reason to doubt that the reports of attacks on Iranian tankers are true," she said.

U.S. officials said they did not think Iraq would attack the oil terminal itself or ships of other nations, but that clearly it was trying to discourage other ships from putting in at Kharg.

This latest development in the 42-month-old war came after the Iranian national news agency Irna said yesterday that Iraq had used chemical weapons in bombing raids on the southern war front, killing or wounding about 400 people in the past 24 hours.

The agency quoted an Iranian military source as saying that "nerve gas, nitrogen mustard, blistering and irritant" chemicals had been used in the raids. It said the wounded, some with burns affecting their whole bodies, had been taken to hospitals in Ahvaz and Susangerd, behind the southern front where Iranian troops launched an offensive last week.

Both sides said that they fought fierce air and ground battles yesterday on the Basra-Al Amarah highway front.

Iran reported killing or wounding 4,500 Iraqi soldiers and shooting down four Iraqi MIG-23 jets while beating back nine successive Iraqi counter-attacks near Basra.

Iraq claimed that its forces by Sunday had killed more than 17,000 Iranian troops. Iran's latest casualty claims raised to more than 11,000 Iraqi soldiers reportedly killed or wounded through the fifth day of Operation Kheibar. (AP, Reuters)

Jackson admits Jewish slur

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire (AP). — Democratic Party presidential hopeful Jesse Jackson has admitted to a Jewish audience that he used the term "Hymie" to refer to Jews.

The remark was made in private and "however innocent and unintended, it was insensitive and wrong," he told an audience that filled the auditorium of Temple Adath Asher on Sunday night.

Many people reacted sympathetically to Jackson's explanation of the controversy over his remark, but expressed disagreement with his stands on relations between Israel and its Arab neighbors.

For two weeks Jackson's campaign for the Democratic presiden-



tial nomination has been dogged by allegations that he had referred to Jews as "Hymies" and to New York City as "Hymietown."

Jackson repeatedly said he could not recall ever using the term, which is short for the surname Hyman and considered offensive by some Jews. (Primary — page 4)

Mayor: Aguda-funded project doesn't exist

By ARYEH RUBINSTEIN
Post Knesset Reporter

Safed Mayor Aharon Nahmias (Alignment) charged in the Knesset yesterday that one of the institutions that receives government funds on the recommendation of Agudat Yisrael does not exist.

The institution appears on the Aguda list as "Magen Avot" in Safed. But, Nahmias said, "up to 10 o'clock this morning, there was no such institution in Safed."

Deputy Finance Minister Haim Kaufman promised that Nahmias' charge would be examined.

Kaufman was replying to a parliamentary question on government allocations to Aguda institutions put by Naftali "Feder" Alignment-Mapam).

Kaufman denied that the Treasury gives the Aguda MKs funds for transfer to their favorite institutions. The procedure is that the spirit of Para. 48 of the "Agreement," the MKs' list of institutions for which funds are given.

"Justify for such funds," he said, "the institutions must be corporations, must have assets, and must be subject to the supervision of the State Comptroller."

Kaufman said that the ministries, and such institutions, par-

ticularly the Religious Affairs Ministry, require financial reports from the institutions as a condition for continued support.

In a supplementary question, Feder asked whether it was not in a bad taste that with respect to three of the institutions that receive government funds, not only is MK Menahem Porush president and treasurer, but that seven of his close relatives serve on the executive committees.

He named the three institutions as Degel Yerushalayim, Kiryat Hayeled, and Yad Iyud. He said the Hayeled and Yad Iyud are his sons, his son-in-law Asher Tanenbaum, his nephew Meir Heisler, and his cousins Shlomo Zelman Sosenfeld and Moshe Druck.

Kaufman thought that the question should more properly be addressed to the institutions concerned.

MK Shlomo Lorincz (Agudat Yisrael) said last night he had no idea what Nahmias was talking about, as there is no Magen Avot on the Aguda list of Torah institutions for which state aid is requested. However, he had checked and found that there did exist a Magen Avot in Safed. It is a talmud tora (elementary tora school), not a yeshiva, and it comes under the purview of the Education Ministry, not that of Religious Affairs.

West Bank leaders hope to meet Arafat

By ROBERT ROSENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

West Bank leaders visiting Amman are determined to meet with PLO chairman Yasser Arafat, even though the coordinator of activities in the territories, Binayamin Ben-Eliezer, has forbidden such a meeting. West Bank sources said last night.

Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij is among the prominent West Bankers hoping to meet with Arafat. He told Israel Television on Sunday night that he plans to tell Arafat that "the only way for a solution of the dispute with Israel is through political talks, mutual recognition and negotiations face to face."

Others in the delegation include Hikmat al-Masri, a prominent political figure from Nablus, Anwar al-Khatib, one of the highest ranking Jordanian civil servants in the administered territories, and Mahmoud abu-Zuloff, the editor of

the Jerusalem-based al-Kuds daily newspaper.

According to West Bank sources, "if and when" an Arafat-Freij meeting takes place it would be the first between the two men. However, Palestinian sources in Jerusalem last night discounted the long-term significance of a meeting between the man considered the most moderate of all the Palestinian leaders in the West Bank and the PLO chief.

"Arafat has long been aware of Freij's positions," said one source, explaining that what Freij told Israel Television on Sunday night "would come as no surprise" to the PLO chairman.

Another source heavily discounted the significance of the West Bankers' presence in Amman, saying that they are all known as "pro-Jordanian elements" who are "a little more vocal than in the past."

None of the West Bank sources

with whom The Jerusalem Post spoke expects any serious retaliation against the politicians who went to Amman yesterday. Said one: "Freij is the most prominent of the moderates in Israeli eyes. It would be like shooting themselves in the foot, if they tried to 'punish' him for meeting Arafat, especially with Freij carrying such a 'moderate' statement."

Indeed, West Bankers seemed more interested in the outcome of the talks between Arafat and King Hussein, hoping that the PLO leader would convince Hussein to "loosen some of the screws" on Palestinians who hold Jordanian citizenship.

Specifically, noted one source, the Palestinians in Amman would seek the removal of tight controls against the marketing of West Bank agricultural produce in Jordan, as well as other steps to "prove Jordanian-Palestinian cooperation."

PLO says it won't leave Shouf

By PAUL EEDLE

BHAMDOUN, Lebanon (Reuters). — Palestinian terrorists say they do not intend to withdraw from the Shouf Mountain east of Beirut, despite repeated Israeli air raids to flush them out and opposition from the Druse militias which control the area.

A Druse officer in the hill resort of Bhamdoun, target of the majority of recent Israeli attacks, said most Palestinians had already moved out of his area and the rest should follow. He declined to say exactly how many remained there.

But at a base further east in the Bekaa Valley, an officer of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC), known as Abul-Izz, said his men will remain in their positions in Bhamdoun and nearby Druse-held areas.

Moslem sources said the Druse militia in the mountains and the Shi'ite Moslems in West Beirut, aware of the risk of Israeli retaliation, ordered that no armed Palestinians should be allowed to return to Beirut.

Shi'ite leader Nabih Berri said Palestinian and Lebanese Moslems

agreed on this at a meeting in Damascus.

The Druse officer in Bhamdoun said: "The Palestinians did prepare to move to Beirut. But the discussion which took place in Damascus prevented that."

Abul-Izz said his men would not go back to Beirut. Abu Musa, one of the leaders of the pro-Syrian faction of the biggest terrorist group, Fatah, said the same in a newspaper interview last week.

But there are signs that Palesti-

nians have been trying to take at least some advantage of the Moslem militia successes.

Moslem sources said that nine days ago some PFLP-GC men slipped through Druse-held territory as far as the coastal town of Na'ame, just south of Beirut. Israeli planes bombed a sawmill there on February 19.

Abul-Izz said it was possible that some fighters might have been moving through Druse territory.

IDF post fired on from moving car

Jerusalem Post Reporter

METULLA. — An IDF position near Jezzine was fired on from a moving car yesterday. There were no injuries.

In the Burj as-Shamali refugee camp near Tyre, residents burned tires in a demonstration against the IDF.

Automatic fire was directed at a South Lebanon militia position in Sidon, but there were no injuries.

Item adds:

Red Cross authorities and Unifil officers in South Lebanon protested to IDF officers yesterday over

Israel's refusal to allow them to evacuate wounded from the Shi'ite village of Maraka after a violent confrontation between villagers and the IDF last week.

IDF officers rejected the complaint, saying that the Red Cross and Unifil arrived at the village hours after the IDF had evacuated all the wounded.

Also yesterday, Shi'ite notables from South Lebanon apologized to IDF officers for the violence in Maraka. They said it was organized by extremists of the Shi'ite Amal movement who did not represent the area's residents.

Heavy fighting in Beirut, mediation efforts stalled

BEIRUT. — Christian and Moslem militias battled in downtown Beirut yesterday, with volleys of machine-gun fire and dozens of grenades closing the only crossing point in the divided city for several hours.

Sporadic artillery and rocket exchanges also were reported between Lebanese Army troops and Syrian-backed Druse militiamen in the hills overlooking Beirut, as diplomatic efforts to end the Lebanese crisis stalemated after Saudi Arabia's chief mediator, Rafik Hariri, delayed his return to the capital.

Hariri was expected to resume his shuttle between Lebanon and Syria yesterday. But state-run Beirut Radio said the Lebanese-born mediator telephoned Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salem to say he could not return on schedule because he had been summoned for urgent talks with Saudi King Fahd

and the Saudi ambassador to Washington, Prince Bandar bin Sultan.

Both Bandar and Hariri had declared a cease-fire in Lebanon's latest round of civil war last Friday and left for home. But the truce collapsed after only hours.

Meanwhile, President Amin Gemayel, weakened by opposition militia victories and the withdrawal of foreign troops from Beirut, was reported by newspapers yesterday to be about to scrap his country's treaty with Israel.

Cancellation would be a big concession by the Christian president to the Moslem opposition and Syria and would mark the end of his policy of relying on the U.S. to arrange the removal of Israeli and Syrian troops from Lebanon.

The generally pro-government (Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

Arens urges cultivating relations with Lebanese Shi'ites

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Post Defence Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Defence Minister Moshe Arens said yesterday Israel should make "every effort" to improve relations with the Shi'ite Moslems in Lebanon.

Addressing a meeting organized by the Likud student faction at Tel Aviv University, Arens also rejected criticism for having stopped the preferential treatment of the Christian Phalangists. He maintained Israel should strive for good relations with all Lebanese communities.

"It is important that in addition to relations with the Christians and the

Druse we make every effort to attain good relations also with (the Shi'ites)," he stressed.

The minister noted the Shi'ites in South Lebanon had had "very serious problems" with the Palestine Liberation Organization. Their Amal militia had been established largely to protect the Shi'ites against the PLO, he said.

Moreover, the Shi'ites constitute the biggest community in South Lebanon. "They will be our neighbours forever," he said.

Arens said he does not believe there will ever be friendly relations with "Khomeini fanatics," but most Shi'as in Southern Lebanon are not

Khomeinists, and I don't believe they will be."

The minister said the Druse, too, have no inherent enmity towards Israel. Some support Syria's anti-Israel policy, some have contacts with Syrian intelligence, "but most Druse are not hostile to Israel."

Arens maintained the silent majority among Christians, Druse, Shi'ites — and even Sunni Moslems — is friendly to Israel. "They see in Israel a factor which may help them — possibly even save them," the minister added.

But the silent majority has no militias and so far Israel has not found "elements who would

(favourably) view joint interests."

Until Israel finds forces which it can trust to keep the Palestinian fighters out, the Israel Defence Forces must remain in Lebanon, the minister maintained.

He noted that the recent katyusha attack on Metulla had failed because of the IDF's presence in the area. The attackers were acting in a hurry lest they be caught, and thus missed their targets, he said. Only one of the three katyushas fell inside Israel and no damage was caused, he noted.

In the question-and-answer session, Arens was asked whether it was not advisable to find tasks for

his predecessor Ariel Sharon, who has complained that as minister without portfolio, he has little to do and is wasting time working on a tractor on his farm.

Arens commented: "The government is not a labour exchange. The government does not have to look for work for this or that person."

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	MIN	MAX	C.F.	F
AMSTERDAM	0	32	48	Cloudy
BRUSSELS	2	38	70	Rain
BUEENOS AIRES	10	66	27	Cloudy
CHICAGO	4	25	28	Snow
GUATEMALA	1	34	26	Cloudy
FRANKFURT	2	36	51	Cloudy
GENEVA	1	30	37	Snow
HELSINKI	6	21	37	Clear
HONG KONG	14	87	16	Cloudy
JERUSALEM	14	57	27	Clear
LONDON	3	37	12	Clear
LUXEMBOURG	3	37	51	Cloudy
MADRID	4	35	7	Clear
MONTREAL	-1	18	-5	Cloudy
NEW YORK	-1	30	51	Rain
OSLO	6	21	37	Cloudy
PARIS	1	34	26	Rain
PRINCE OF JORDAN	23	73	110	Clear
SAO PAULO	22	72	30	Clear
STOCKHOLM	2	28	28	Clear
TOKYO	2	36	94	Clear
TORONTO	-10	14	-28	Clear
VINNA	2	36	4	Cloudy
ZURICH	1	30	37	Snow

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THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy to fair

	Yesterday's	Yesterday's	Today's
	Humidity	Min-Max	Max
Jerusalem	31	3-16	16
Golan	21	7-16	16
N. Shariya	—	—	18
Safed	38	6-15	13
Laifia Port	64	12-18	18
Tiberias	12	6-21	21
Nazareth	44	8-18	18
Afula	42	2-21	21
Shomron	23	5-18	18
Tel Aviv	58	8-19	19
B-G Airport	45	6-20	20
Jericho	26	10-24	24
Gaza	67	9-18	18
Beer-Sheva	30	3-19	20
Eilat	18	11-24	24

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Post T. Carmi will read from his work tomorrow at the Van Leer Jerusalem Foundation at 9 p.m.

ARRIVALS

A Shmoneh Esrei - Aviv (Dor Hemshech) group from Great Britain for a 10-day study tour.

Aguda said seeking additional IS1 billion

Jerusalem Post Staff
Agudat Israel is demanding that the state budget be revised to allot an additional IS1 billion to yeshivot, according to Israel Radio. Aguda officials declared that the change is necessary to make good a mistake in computing allocations for religious institutions, the report said.
The radio report did not say whether the demand has been presented to the Treasury.

Couple sues Nofim to recover IS1.5m.

TEL AVIV (Itim). — A married couple has filed suit against the Nofim land development company to recover IS1.5 million they paid for a plot and house in the settlement now under construction in Samaria. The company has not yet filed a defence brief.
Yosef and Genesis Patillon said in their suit to the Tel Aviv District Court that the company agreed to build their house on a certain plot, but then changed the location. They sued after the company refused to allow them to back out of the contract under an agreed cancellation clause.

Road fatality identified as Ashkelon man

ASHKELON (Itim). — The man killed Sunday in a road crash in the South was identified yesterday as Haim Yona, 35, Yona, the father of three children, was a member of one of Ashkelon's founding families.
The four persons who were hurt in the collision between Yona's car and a bus were released from hospital yesterday.

Beit She'an appeal rejected, electricity to be cut

BEIT SHE'AN (Itim). — The Electric Corporation yesterday rejected an appeal from the municipal council here to postpone for several weeks cutting off power to council buildings and town streets.
The council is behind in paying its power bills. The Electric Corporation is due to begin cutting services here tomorrow.

Carmiel raises local rates

Jerusalem Post Reporter
CARMIEL. — Municipal taxes here will go up by an average 260 per cent, following a decision yesterday by the local council.
Demobilized soldiers, families with at least seven children and new immigrants from Ethiopia will be exempt from paying municipal taxes.

NON-UNION. — The Daily Newspapers Printers Union has threatened to begin a labour struggle if the management of the *Haaretz* daily goes through with plans to publish a new daily paper using new technology operated by non-union workers.

HOME NEWS

IN THE KNESSET/Aryeh Rubinstein

Levy: No responsibility for private land deals

The Housing Ministry assumes no responsibility towards prospective settlers in Judea and Samaria who contracted for homes with private builders in deals with which the ministry was not involved, Minister David Levy said yesterday in the Knesset.

He was replying to a parliamentary question by Ya'acov Tzur (Alignment). Tzur said many such prospective settlers, in Nofim and elsewhere, stood to lose their money because of fraudulent practices of private land speculators.

Levy replied that the great majority of building in Judea and Samaria has been done through the ministry. As for the isolated cases in which the ministry was not involved, Levy said that the responsibility rested solely with the entrepreneur.

Jewish tourism

Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir said yesterday that of the five million Jews in the U.S., 3.5 million have never visited Israel.

This is a searing failure of the Zionist movement and the State of Israel, for how can we talk seriously of increasing immigration if the Jews of the free world aren't even interested enough in Israel to visit here, Sharir said.

Replying to a motion for the agenda by Ariel Weinstein (Likud-Liberal), Sharir said that in the decade 1970-80, non-Jewish tourism rose by 87 per cent while Jewish tourism rose by only 39 per cent.

The House decided to hold a full-scale debate on the subject.

Bill against racism

A private members' bill to prevent racism and discrimination, presented by Mohammed Wattad (on behalf of all seven Mapam members), passed its preliminary reading last night by a vote of 32 to 30.

The bill was opposed by Justice Minister Moshe Nissim on the ground that it was superfluous. The subject was already covered by the law against incitement. Nissim maintained.

Western culture

Three MKs yesterday presented motions for the agenda on the recent pronouncement of Dr. Uriel Reshef of Jerusalem's Rehavia Gymnasium on the supposed superiority of western over eastern culture.

The three were Ya'acov Gil (Alignment), Geula Cohen (Tehiya) and Yehuda Ben-Meir (National Religious Party).

Deputy Education Minister Miriam Glaser-Ta'asa also deplored the views expressed by Reshef. But, she said, he had undoubtedly suffered enough and that he should by no means be dismissed.

She agreed that the Knesset hold a full scale debate on the subject.

But then Shevah Weiss (Alignment) moved that the motions be struck from the agenda. It did not add to the Knesset's dignity that every view expressed must be treated as a national problem and debated in the Knesset, he said.

Threat empties Petah Tikva City Hall

PETAH TIKVA (Itim). — The Petah Tikva Municipality was evacuated yesterday morning after a telephone caller announced that a bomb had been placed inside. However, no bomb was found in a search of the building.

Municipal sources attribute the threat and a similar one on Sunday night, to the controversy over the council's decision to permit movie theatres and cafes to open on Friday nights.

At 10 a.m. yesterday local police received an anonymous phone call, warning of the bomb. Large police units were dispatched. After evacuating municipal workers with the help of loudspeakers, police

searched the buildings for about an hour. No bomb was found and the workers were allowed back inside.

The police say another false bomb threat was received on Sunday night, during a meeting of the town council. On that occasion the building was evacuated for several hours.

The Labour Ministry yesterday announced it would prosecute the owners of the Heichal Cinema for opening last Friday night in violation of the Work and Rest Hours Law. A ministry spokesman said certain enterprises are allowed to operate on the Sabbath if they receive a special permit to do so, which the cinema had not.

Kibbutz movement backs Levinson probe

Jerusalem Post Staff
The secretariat of the United Kibbutz Movement on Sunday ratified a statement issued earlier by three of the movement's leaders — Haim Gvati, Yitzhak Ben-Aharon and Meir Zarmi — following the death of Ya'acov Levinson.

In the statement, the movement's leaders said that on the basis of facts that had been made public, a report by Hevrat Ha'Ovdim chairman Danny Rosolio and the internal Histadrut investigation into the allegations against Levinson, justified the conclusion that actions which deviated from proper management procedures may have taken place in

Bank Hapoalim. This necessitated and justified the examination of the material and the establishment of a committee in order to determine the truth and to draw conclusions, the statement said.

Accordingly, submission of the material to the attorney-general by the Bank Hapoalim directors and Rosolio was in accordance with their public responsibility, the statement said. (Rabin and Peres, page 3)

PRIZES. — The Education and Culture Ministry on Sunday awarded 12 prizes for excellence in educational endeavour.

MESHEL VOWS

(Continued from Page One)

said it was legitimate to covet the post "but that does not mean I am saying that I want it."

Meanwhile, Bank Hapoalim sources said that the decision to submit the findings of the Rothman-Sivan committee to the attorney-general's office was taken unanimously by both the Bank Hapoalim's board of management (the small body which runs the bank's day-to-day affairs) and by its board of directors (the larger body

which decides on long-range policy).

Simultaneously, a similar decision was adopted by the leadership of both the Histadrut and Hevrat Ha'Ovdim (its holding company).

It was pointed out that all those concerned decided that the findings of the Rothman-Sivan committee justified clarification by the attorney-general's office.

Shraga Rothman and Amiram Sivan headed the bank's internal committee investigating the affair.

BEIRUT FIGHTING

(Continued from Page One)

newspaper *An-Nahar* quoted sources close to both Jemayel and the opposition as saying the president had decided to scrap the treaty.

Former president Suleiman Franjeh said in an interview published yesterday by the daily newspaper *Al-Liwa* that Jemayel had told him in a meeting last week in northern Lebanon that the accord was a "corpse in the morgue awaiting burial."

By early afternoon yesterday, the battles along the "green line" dividing Christian East Beirut from the mostly Moslem western sector had claimed the lives of a 10-year-old boy and two adults, and wounded 19 other persons.

Artillery shells slammed into residential neighbourhoods in both sectors adjacent to the front. Police said the casualties brought to 36 the number killed since the cease-fire fell apart on Friday. More than 100 others have been reported wounded. (Reuters, AP)



Volunteers in Tel Aviv converse yesterday at fund-raising stand during a "Day of Silence" campaign for the country's deaf. The day included a door-to-door drive to collect contributions. (IPPA)

Subtitles on 'Mabat' for Israel's deaf

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Israel Television last night made a special one-time gesture to the deaf to mark yesterday's "Day of Silence" by providing sign-language broadcasts on the *Mabat* news programme.

Israel Television was acting in response to a request from the Association for the Deaf.

Three organizations for the deaf held a fund-raising drive yesterday.

TA firemen threaten to leave stations

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — This city's fire fighters announced yesterday that at midnight they would abandon fire stations, leaving no fire fighters on duty for the entire Tel Aviv-Jaffa area. This announcement was made in response to the signing by Interior Minister Yosef Burg earlier yesterday of emergency orders authorizing the city to serve the striking firemen with back-to-work orders.

Tel Aviv firemen went on strike Sunday, demanding wages equal to those of their Jerusalem colleagues. However, until yesterday's announcement they had not abandoned their stations.

After the announcement, the municipality notified police and nearby Dan Region fire stations to be on the alert in case of an emergency.

"The situation is most severe if wage demands bring people to neglect and endanger human life," municipality spokesman Roni Riman said yesterday.

Water supply in doubt after pump fire

TIBERIAS (Itim). — Disruptions in the country's water supply are expected following the failure of Mekorot, the national water company, to repair damage to a pumping unit caused by a fire last week at the main Kinneret pumping station.

A Mekorot spokesman said a complete assessment of the damage would take another two weeks, during which the company would pump water from alternative sources.

The possibility exists that the Water Commission may have to impose rationing until the national water carrier, immobilized by the fire, is working again, the spokesman said.

"Had there been a lot of rain this year, we wouldn't have a problem. But since this is a dry year, we do have a problem and we'll have to overcome it any way we can," said the spokesman.

Panel wants cuts made in Peres's book on Entebbe

By DAVID LANDAU

Post Diplomatic Correspondent

Shimon Peres, the Labour Party leader, has written a book on the Entebbe rescue operation, detailing his version of the momentous event. Peres served as defence minister at the time, under the premiership of Yitzhak Rabin.

His book is based, Peres told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday, on notes and records which he kept at the time. It is a short book, he said, and "not polemical." It is not intended to "answer" Rabin's version of the Entebbe episode, as published in Rabin's autobiographical *Service Record* (Pinkas Sherut, Ma'ariv Library, 1979).

"I was defence minister at the time," Peres said yesterday, "and thus I was responsible. I wanted to record the story from my vantage-point."

Peres wrote the book more than

two years ago and submitted it, as required by law, to the cabinet committee which examines books written by former public servants and approves them for publication. This committee, under the chairmanship of Justice Minister Moshe Nissim, spent two years on its "examination."

Recently, Peres said, after the committee had received queries from lawyers acting for the prospective publisher, *Yediot Aharanot*, the committee announced that it had approved the book barring certain brief passages. Peres said he would now consider the committee's excisions before deciding on whether to go ahead and publish.

"It is not always the size of the excisions that matters, but their importance to the text," Peres explained. He noted that the book had been approved by the military censor without any difficulty at all.

HUSSEIN

(Continued from Page One)

The Post's correspondent in Washington adds:

The fate of the Palestinians cannot be decided upon without some kind of Palestinian presence, a State Department spokesman said yesterday, calling the Hussein-Arafat talks "important meetings."

The spokesman expressed optimism the talks would draw other parties into negotiations for peace in the Middle East. In answer to a question, the spokesman said "other parties" referred to Palestinians.

The spokesman said King Hussein is a central factor in the peace process according to the Reagan plan.

Rumsfeld will not resume Lebanese diplomatic efforts

WASHINGTON (Reuters). — U.S. special envoy Donald Rumsfeld will withdraw from diplomatic efforts to resolve Lebanon's problems and work on President Ronald Reagan's plan for an overall Middle East settlement, officials said yesterday.

Rumsfeld, who recently returned to Washington for talks with Reagan, will go back to the Middle East at an unspecified time, but is not expected to return to Lebanon, the officials said.

The decision was taken because of the withdrawal of U.S. Marines from Beirut to ships offshore and the absence now of any meaningful U.S. role in trying to stem the violence and encourage reconciliation between Christian and Moslem factions, they said.

White House spokesman Larry Speakes declined to confirm statements by officials that Reagan did not plan to send Rumsfeld back to Lebanon.

However, Speakes said Rumsfeld had been in Beirut because Lebanon had been a stumbling block in the Middle East process and would now direct his attention to the broad Middle East peace plan announced by Reagan in September 1982.

Reagan's plan called for a settlement based on autonomy for the West Bank and Gaza in association with Jordan but ruled out a separate Palestinian state.

Reagan's plan called for a settlement based on autonomy for the West Bank and Gaza in association with Jordan but ruled out a separate Palestinian state.

EC supports UN force in Lebanon

PARIS (Reuters). — The European Community yesterday called on the international community to send peace-keeping troops to Lebanon after the departure of the Multi-National Force.

A statement read by French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson after a meeting of community foreign ministers said the 10-member bloc wanted a "lasting and effective" cease-fire.

Warning that continued conflict in Lebanon could perpetuate the division of the country and the presence of foreign troops, the statement backed French efforts in the UN to send a peace-keeping force to Beirut.

The statement also referred to the "withdrawal of all foreign troops except those whose presence is agreed to by the Lebanese government."

BULLETIN

Shultz approves of Orgad's policy line

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — Secretary of State George Shultz declared yesterday that recent economic moves by the Israeli government were in the proper direction but he was as yet unable to judge their efficacy.

He was speaking after a luncheon meeting at the State Department with visiting Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Orgad.

World Olympics head here for visit

The head of the International Olympics Committee, Juan Antonio Samaranch, arrived yesterday for an official visit of three days. In a statement at Ben-Gurion Airport, he referred to the massacre of 11 Israeli athletes at the 1972 Munich games, calling it "a tragedy that will never be forgotten."

Samaranch, the first IOC head to visit Israel, was welcomed by

Yitzhak Ofek, chairman of the Israel Olympic Committee. Ofek said that the visit symbolizes Israel's membership in the international sports community.

Samaranch is due to lay a wreath at the Wingate Institute memorial for the athletes slain in Munich. He will also meet President Chaim Herzog and Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

Bar-Ilan lecturer held for stealing purses

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — A lecturer in the humanities faculty at Bar-Ilan University was arrested yesterday on suspicion of stealing purses from students' bags.

Following complaints by students whose purses were stolen at various university libraries over the last few weeks, the police sent detectives to the campus. For the past week they

staked out the entrances to the libraries, where students leave their bags before entering.

Yesterday afternoon the detectives spotted the lecturer as he was slipping a woman's purse out of one of the bags at a library entrance.

During interrogation the suspect is said to have admitted having committed a number of thefts at the university.

Ex-Haifa U. student jailed for corruption

HAIFA (Itim). — A former head of the Haifa University students union yesterday was convicted by the district court of bribery and embezzlement and sentenced to 10 months in prison, plus two years suspended.

Nissim Dahan, 27, of Beit She'an, headed the students union from February 1982 to April 1983. During that period he accepted a bribe of IS30,000 in awarding a contract to one campus caterer and pocketed IS115,000 from leasing fees paid by another.

In passing sentence, Judge Dan Bein noted that Dahan had overcome many social disadvantages in reaching the university, where he had achieved a position of leadership and had also helped many students.

Post office robbed in central Carmel

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — A man armed with an M-16 rifle held up the post office in Wedgewood Street in central Carmel last night and stole IS90,000, police reported.

The masked man, dressed in an IDF uniform, threatened the post office manager, a clerk and a customer, and demanded the money, police said. No shots were fired, and the man made good his escape.

Police were called to the scene and launched a full inquiry into the robbery.

HEALTH. — Some 3,000 residents of Bat Yam, Holon and Jaffa have taken courses in public and preventive medicine offered by Kupat Holim Clalit.

Trevor Chinn and Henry Lewis
mourn the death of their dear friend
YA'ACOV LEVINSON
and offer their sincere condolences to
his widow, children and family.

In deep sorrow, we announce the passing of our beloved husband, father, grandfather and uncle.
ISRAEL SOIFER י"י
The funeral will take place at 5 p.m. today, February 28, 1984 at the Eretz Hachaim Cemetery, Migash Shimon, Beit Shemesh. A bus will leave from Moadon Haoleh, Rehov Alkali, Jerusalem at 4 p.m. Shiva at 5 Rehov Mapu, Jerusalem.

Margaret Soifer
David and Lea Soifer
Hillel and Boaz Soifer
Tova and Meir Jaffa
Prima and Elisha Linder

With great sorrow,
we announce the passing of our friend and neighbour
NURIT (Inge) AVERBUCH נ"י
née Feltenberg
An artist of great talent
May her soul find eternal rest.
Mr. and Mrs. Oshinsky
Friends and Neighbours
at 38 Rehov Aza, Jerusalem

To Mr. GABRIEL TAMMAN, Geneva
Deepest sympathies on the death of your brother
ELIE J. TAMMAN י"י
The Herut Movement

To the
Tammam and Gaon Families
Our deepest sympathy on the loss of
ELIE J. TAMMAN
Misgav Yerushalayim
Institute for Research on the
Sephardi and Oriental Jewish Heritage,
Jerusalem

Our beautiful friend
YA'ACOV LEVINSON
is no longer with us,
but he has left us a legacy
we shall never forget.
We are wiser and blessed for having known him.
We shall love him always,
for he taught us the meaning of truth, integrity and honour.
This is our loss and a great loss to Israel.
May he rest in eternal peace.
Bobie & Warren Abrams
Giti & Jack Bandheim
Erica & Ludwig Jasselson
Connie & Harvey Kruger
Ellen & Dan Shapiro
Evelin & Fred Sammer
Radina & Bill Spier
Judy & Michael Steinhard
Hava & Shimon Topor
Barbi & Larry Weinberg
Michael & Michael Yudin

In aftermath of Levinson's suicide

Peres and Rabin strive to calm Labour factions

By SARAH HONIG
Post Political Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Labour Party leaders yesterday sought to play down the crisis precipitated by the suicide of former Bank Hapoalim head Yitzhak Rabin last Thursday by promising to work out a formula that would calm the turmoil and satisfy all sides to the conflict.

A similar attempt to calm tensions was made by the United Kibbutz Movement, which is also divided over the issue.

Party Chairman Shimon Peres, secretary-general Haim Bar-Lev and former premier Yitzhak Rabin decided yesterday morning to postpone all meetings of party forums this week, a move which should reduce maneuvering and lobbying and prevent any more clashes. Thus the Alignment Knesset faction which was due to meet yesterday in session only for a few minutes before it was adjourned. Similarly, the Labour Political Bureau meeting scheduled for this Thursday was cancelled.

Peres reportedly hopes that by

next week he will be able to convene the bureau and present a compromise which will mollify all concerned and leave the party undamaged.

Party insiders note that Peres and Rabin are working hand in hand in this case. They attribute the cooperation of the two rivals to the fact that if the party is shaken by fall-out from the Levinson affair, the entire leadership would be vulnerable and that both could lose their positions to Yitzhak Navon.

However, according to some Labour sources, both Peres and Rabin have concluded that Meshel will soon have to be removed from office. According to these reports, they are now attempting to arrange his retirement in a way that would not make it appear as a surrender to emotional demands following the Levinson suicide.

But it is further reported that Peres and Rabin disagree about when Meshel should step down. Peres would like to see him replaced in about a month, a date which would satisfy the anti-Meshel

campaigners. Rabin maintains that Meshel should stay in office for at least three more months to avoid giving the impression of capitulation in connection with the Levinson affair.

The immediate task before the party leadership now is to find a formula that would speak of more Labour Party control over the Histadrut and its holding company, Hevrat Ha'Ovdim, but which would prevent a wholesale removal of the Histadrut leadership.

The so-called pro-Levinson group in the party has been clamouring for the removal of Yehoram Meshel from the post of Histadrut secretary-general and for tight Labour Party control over the Histadrut concerns. The control would be manifested primarily in giving the party a crucial say in top Hevrat Ha'Ovdim appointments.

This is stiffly opposed by the pro-Meshel elements in Labour and also by the Rabin camp. Many of Rabin's supporters, such as Hevrat Ha'Ovdim head Danny Rosolio of the Meuhad Kibbutz Movement,

happen to be directly in the firing line of the pro-Levinson anti-Meshel camp.

Rabin yesterday cautioned against any attempt to limit the independence of Histadrut firms. If the party is given direct control over Histadrut appointments, he argued, "it may one day pave the way for the members of the Herut secretariat to determine who will serve on the Bank Hapoalim board of directors."

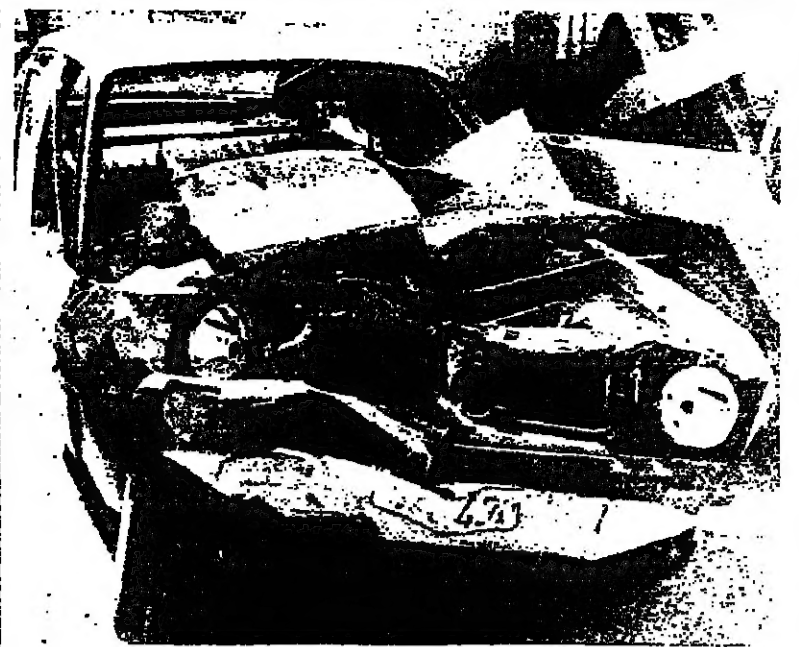
Katz-Oz continued to insist yesterday on Meshel's earliest possible replacement. His successor, according to Katz-Oz, should be elected now and the two should coordinate the exact date of Meshel's retirement. He termed it "unthinkable that Meshel should now distribute his own inheritance to himself." Katz-Oz was alluding to Meshel's aim to be elected chairman of the Bank Hapoalim board of directors.

Katz-Oz was speaking at a meeting of the United Kibbutz Movement's central committee, which ratified a secretariat decision

calling on all movement members to refrain from any inflammatory statements or actions which might increase the uncertainty and division in the movement. The kibbutz movement is worried lest the crisis cause a rift between its Meuhad and Ihud components. It is noted that Rosolio is a Meuhad member, while Katz-Oz is from the Ihud.

The movement's decision is seen as a small victory for Rosolio and the Meuhad side. The secretariat stated that it had heard a report from Rosolio and "is satisfied that suspicions existed of irregularities in Bank Hapoalim. This justified the investigation. The actions of our representatives in the Bank Hapoalim executive and Hevrat Ha'Ovdim secretariat were appropriate according to their public duty."

The Moshav Movement yesterday called for an urgent investigation into the affair, but cautioned against any moves to remove Histadrut officials from office before the investigation is complete.



Dr. Tamara Begun, 53, was crushed to death yesterday morning as she sat in this parked car in Jerusalem's Gilo neighbourhood, when an apparently driverless Tnuva delivery truck lost its brakes and rammed into it, travelling backward. The truck's driver was found and arrested. (Yitzhak Elharari)

Manslaughter charges filed in kerosene-injection case

TEL AVIV (Itim). — An indictment was filed yesterday in the district court charging Moshe Levy, 34, of Holon with manslaughter in connection with the death of his wife and with causing grievous bodily harm to his girlfriend. In both cases, the charge sheet states, he injected kerosene into their bodies.

Levy married Ilana Oved in 1973. In 1980 she was treated for an abscess in her buttocks and came home to convalesce. Levy is charged with drugging her to sleep, and then injecting kerosene and other substances into the open wound. As a result, the indictment states, Ilana Levy developed an incurable infection and died.

In the second charge, Levy is accused of drugging his girlfriend,

Susan Amoyal, 22, raping her while she was unconscious, and then injecting her with kerosene in her neck, breast, lower back and buttocks with the intent of causing her death.

Following this alleged attack, Amoyal was hospitalized suffering from abscesses all over her body. She was later released of entering her name in Shiloa Hospital at Tel Aviv on the night of December 1983 and pouring kerosene into her eyes, "with the intention of causing her grievous harm."

Following the prosecution requested that Levy be held until the end of his trial. The request is to be heard today.

Boycott against tuition hike

Jerusalem Post Reporter

University students are to boycott classes for two hours today to protest against the Treasury's demand that tuition fees be doubled next year to \$1,200.

In recent negotiations with the Treasury and the Council for Higher Education, the students declared their willingness to consider raising tuition fees by 25 per cent, if loans and scholarships were considerably expanded.

A majority of members of the Knesset Education Committee

yesterday expressed support for the students' position. The opposition members said that tuition fees should not be raised, since the formula adopted two years ago by the Katzav Committee was to remain in force for five years.

Last week the Council for Higher Education proposed a compromise whereby tuition would be raised to \$1,200, but loans and scholarships would be made available to all students under 30. Education Minister Zevulun Hammer supports the council proposal.

14% electricity price hike approved

By AVI TEMKIN
Post Economic Reporter

The Knesset Finance Committee yesterday approved a 14 per cent rise in electricity prices from February 13, and not from February 1 as requested by the Energy Ministry.

Some committee members said after the meeting that the decision

should serve as a warning to the Electric Corporation to regard the committee's opinions more "seriously."

Some members complained that the corporation is not doing enough to limit the amount of free electricity supplied to its workers. Members also said the company's investment plans will lead to unnecessary outlays.

Delay in reopening waste disposal site

By LIORA MORIEL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

BEERSHEBA. — The national toxic waste disposal site at Ramat Hovav, 12 kilometres south of here, will not reopen on April 1 as planned. The Jerusalem Post has learned. The site, administered by the government company Mivnei Ta'asiya, is the only site for disposing of hazardous industrial wastes in Israel and has been closed since April 3, 1982.

Yigal Erlich, the Ministry of Trade and Industry's representative in the inter-ministerial committee in charge of the site, and now acting

chief scientist of the ministry, told The Post yesterday that the regional planning commission has rejected Mivnei Ta'asiya's blueprints for the second stage of operations, namely the reopening of the site for new wastes.

The first stage, completed in January, involved the proper burial of 10,000 tons of toxic garbage which had collected dangerously at the site over three years.

"We promised the Knesset's Interior and Environment Committee to reopen in April but because of problems with the regional committee we will not be able to do so on time," Erlich said.

I. Shmona ambulance driver saves newborn's life

Kiryat Shmona. — An ambulance driver yesterday saved the life of an infant born with his umbilical cord wrapped around his neck.

Avraham Sridy, on duty at the Magen David Adom post here, was called to take Shula Abutbul, 28, to the hospital after she began having mild labour pains. However, shortly

after she and her husband Yosef entered the ambulance, the infant was born in the vehicle.

Sridy, assisting with the birth, saw that the baby was blue and was being choked by the umbilical cord. Sridy cut the cord and massaged the infant's chest until the boy started breathing.

Galilee affairs committee to be set up

By AARON SITTNER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The establishment of a committee for Galilee affairs is one of the recommendations of the inter-agency committee on the region, which has been approved by Housing Minister David Levy.

The new Galilee affairs committee will be composed of the directors-general of all ministries, under Levy's chairmanship. It will meet four times a year.

Among other recommendations approved by Levy: The cabinet will be asked to order every minister to prepare an "annual Galilee work plan" describing future activities on behalf of Galilee development.

Every local authority in Galilee will appoint an "industrial executive" who will be in contact with the Ministry of Industry in order to receive his or her local authority's economy.

Prices of state land will be reduced and "substantial benefits" — unspecified — will be offered to Galilee residents in the fields of education, welfare services, housing, industry, public transport and telephone service.

British Navy survey ship due in Haifa

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — The British Navy will visit Israel next month for the first time since the beginning of the war in Lebanon, The Jerusalem Post learned yesterday.

The survey ship HMS Hydra will come to Haifa in March for a five-day "informal" visit, a British Embassy spokesman said.

The last visit by a British naval vessel was in April 1982, when the oiler and supply ship HMS Olna came for a six-day call. The call was cut short when the Olna was ordered to the Falklands to back up the British attack on the islands Argentina had seized.

The return of the British Navy is seen as a gesture to Israel following the cooling of relations as a result of the war in Lebanon.

The 2,700-ton Hydra, which has a crew of 117, is fitted for oceanographic and hydrographic surveys, and engages in the preparation of naval charts.

'TNT not tied to monastery shooting'

By ROBERT ROSENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Police yesterday were attributing mysterious gunshots late Sunday night at an isolated monastery in the Judean hills outside Jerusalem to a failed robbery attempt.

"We have nothing to indicate that it was a Terror Against Terror action," said a police source, referring to the so-called TNT underground. He said that a monk scared away two prowlers who fired shots in the air to prevent a chase.

The incident took place at the St. John Baptist monastery, where 10 monks and a nun live in seclusion not far from Moshav Even Sapir. According to the monk, when he left his room late Sunday night he noticed "two shadowy figures."

According to police, the monk shouted for the two people to identify themselves. They answered with two gun shots, and yesterday afternoon the police found one of the slugs, buried in the mortar of the stone walls of the building.

Plan for Old City church passes hurdle

By MICHAEL ELIAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

A Jerusalem municipal planning body yesterday took the first step in approving one of the largest church construction projects in the Old City in this century.

The subcommittee of the local planning committee approved a plan to build a centre for the Greek Orthodox Church of over 10,000 square metres of floor space in the Greek Patriarchate Street in the Old City.

Members of the committee said there was no opposition to the plans on architectural grounds. A plan drawn up by a church architect

about two years ago was not even submitted to the planning committee because municipal officials said it had no chance of getting approval.

The subcommittee recommended that the local planning committee approve the church's plans and forward them to the district planning committee for the next stage in getting approval.

Committee members said last night that they did not discuss possible changes in the plan in the event of archaeological discoveries. An archaeological examination is needed before getting approval for all major building projects in the Old City and its environs.

BBC. — A story by Jerusalem writer Hannah Yakin is to be broadcast in the BBC World Service listeners' Short Story series on Monday, March 5 and 12:15 p.m. (local time) on 720 kHz (417 metres medium wave).

EXERCISE. — Civil defence exercises are to be held tomorrow and Thursday in Safad, Rehovot, Gedera and Yavne. During the exercises, sirens will be heard. If there is a real alert, rising-and-falling sirens will be sounded.

Five held for burning seven Egged buses

Special to The Jerusalem Post

NAZARETH. — Five residents aged between 20 and 30 from the village of Jadd in the Triaigle have been arrested on suspicion of setting seven Egged buses on fire in the past year, police sources in the North disclosed yesterday.

According to these sources, police are investigating the possibility that political motives were behind the arson.

The five, including two brothers, allegedly set the buses on fire while they were parked in the village at night.

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5 militant Sikhs jailed for burning constitution

NEW DELHI (AP). — A Hindu protest strike shut markets, factories and businesses in the Indian capital yesterday as five Sikh militant leaders burned copies of part of the Indian constitution and were arrested for insulting "national honour."

"We have detained them under the 1971 Insult to National Honour Act that prescribes a maximum sentence of three years," Delhi Police Chief Subhash Tandon said. The militants were taken before a magistrate who sent them to New Delhi's Tihar central jail to await trial.

Wearing marigold garlands and followed by hundreds of slogan-chanting supporters, each of the five blue-turbaned leaders set a copy on fire in front of a large police force at the main Sikh temple here.

Police grabbed the blazing papers and took the militants away. An American reporter and photographer were roughed up.

"We will continue to fight. Our arrest is not the end of the struggle," arrested militant leader Prakash Singh Badal told the Associated Press at the police station. Before his detention, the former top-elected official of Punjab state said: "We are not afraid of arrests. We will even burn it in jail. They can hang us. They can shoot us. They can do anything they want — we are not insulting the constitution."

Meanwhile, four other top leaders of the Akali Dal (Sikh party) were arrested in the northern Indian

city of Chandigarh for tearing the word "Sikh" out of copies of the constitution, authorities said. The protest outside the government office complex took the police by surprise.

Chandigarh, joint capital of Punjab and Haryana states, is 275 kilometres north of here.

The four arrested in Chandigarh originally planned to stage the protest with Badal outside parliament but could not reach the capital because its border was sealed.

The Akali Dal, agitating for greater political and religious autonomy in Punjab, recently demanded that the 33-year-old constitution be amended to classify Sikhs as members of a separate religion — not part of Hinduism.

No major violence was reported during the general strike, called by the right-wing Hindu Nationalist Bharatiya Janata (Indian People's) party to protest against government failure to halt the wave of terrorism that has claimed 83 lives in the past two weeks in northern India.

"We also are protesting the burning of the constitution," party leader and former information minister Lal K. Advani said.

Meanwhile, another assassination was reported in Punjab, where most of India's 13 million Sikhs are concentrated. Motorcycle-riding Sikh terrorists shot and killed a schoolteacher in the remote town of Faridkot and then escaped, state police said.

Curfews remained in force in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar — centre of the Akali Dal agitation — and five other Punjab cities.

Pharaonic tombs said found near Cairo

CAIRO (AP). — Egyptian archaeologists have unearthed five tombs near Cairo from the reign of Ramses II, believed by some to have been pharaoh when the Israelites fled Egypt, officials said yesterday.

Mahmoud Abdel Razik, general manager of the Egyptian Antiquities Department, said the expedition had found the superstructures of five tombs at Sakkarah, some 15 kilometres south of Cairo and 5 kms. from the site of the ancient Egyptian capital Memphis.

The Cairo newspaper *Al-Akhar* quoted the expedition leader, Sayed Tawfik, as saying the discovery is important historically

because it had been thought that members of Ramses' court had all been buried some 720 kilometres to the south near Thebes, which served as the capital during the pharaoh's reign.

Tawfik told the newspaper that the tombs included those of Ramses' prime minister, Neferemibit, his army commander, treasury minister and royal scribe as well as one, so far unidentified, noble.

He said the team was still excavating the site and had so far found no mummies. Razik said that mummies were normally buried in subterranean chambers reached by shafts some 15-20 metres from the main portion of the tombs.

Heavy snow in northern Italy: flood alert in Rome

ROME (AP). — Heavy snowfall blocked mountain passes in the Italian Dolomites yesterday while officials in Rome declared a flood alert after torrential rains battered the city again.

Two separate snowslides killed three people and left four missing

on Sunday.

Police in Bolzano reported that search teams rescued 67 tourists trapped in cars overnight by snow between Dobbiaco and Cortina d'Ampezzo, while in Val Gardena police reached 150 schoolchildren who had been cut off in a hotel by the storm.

Mondale way ahead for today's first primary

WASHINGTON (Reuters). — Today's Democratic Party primary election in New Hampshire is the first of 25 being held between now and June 5 to guide the way state delegates vote at the party convention June 16-20 in San Francisco.

Delegates at the San Francisco convention, organized in an electoral college, make the final choice for presidential and vice-presidential candidates for the November 6 election.

Front-runner and former vice-president Walter Mondale goes into the New Hampshire contest having already won the initial round in the selection process, the February 20 Iowa state Democratic caucus — the first of 32 caucuses also scheduled over the three-month period.

A primary is a one-day ballot in which registered Democratic Party members vote their preference from the slate of Democratic presidential hopefuls. The outcome mainly determines which way the state's delegates then vote in the electoral college.

A caucus is not a public vote, but a party meeting. The caucus system involves three or four stages spaced over weeks or months, with

each area making its choice for candidate and sending representatives up to the next level until convention delegates are chosen.

States are free to choose either method, but primaries account for twice as many delegates. The size of state delegations is determined chiefly by population and the most populous states mainly hold primaries rather than caucuses.

Contests of both types throughout the 50 states will select about 85 per cent of the 3,333 delegates to the San Francisco convention, with a handful chosen in the District of Columbia and a few overseas U.S. territories. Democrats living abroad and "unpledged" party leaders hold the balance.

President Ronald Reagan faces only token challenges on the Republican Party side and is expected to be renominated by acclamation at the August 20-23 Republican convention in Dallas.

The rivals for the Democratic Party's presidential candidacy yesterday criticized Reagan's Lebanon policy in campaigning for the New Hampshire primary.

A public opinion poll gave Mondale 38 per cent support among New Hampshire

Democrats, Senator Gary Hart 24 per cent, and John Glenn 14 per cent.

The ABC News-Washington Post poll gave black rights leader Jesse Jackson 7 per cent, 1972 Democratic presidential candidate George McGovern 6 per cent, Senator Ernest Hollings 4 per cent, Senator Alan Cranston 1 per cent and former Florida state governor Reubin Askew less than 1 per cent.

Hart, referring to the 1979-81 Iranian hostage crisis that helped Reagan defeat Democratic president Jimmy Carter, said: "Lebanon has turned into Ronald Reagan's Iran."

Noting that American warships were shelling Druse and Syrian positions in Lebanon, Hart accused Reagan of causing "a spasm of destruction" and said: "The people of this country have a right to be outraged at their president, who just fires off shells in any direction in order to satisfy some whim of his own."

Glenn said: "For the United States to be throwing shells into a situation like that provides no good purpose and I think it ought to stop."

McGovern also criticized Reagan's Lebanon policy.



A yellow Sphinx-shaped balloon, in the second attempt for Malcolm Forbes, editor of Forbes magazine, fights its way through the wind yesterday to have a quick look at the 6,000-year-old Great Sphinx at Giza. (UPI telephoto)

S. Africa and Angola agree on curbing Swapo activity

CAPE TOWN (Reuters). — South Africa and Angola have agreed on the need to curtail black Namibian (South West African) guerrilla activity which Pretoria says is endangering a three-week-old ceasefire, according to South African Foreign Minister Pik Botha.

He said in a statement on Sunday night that South Africa had conveyed its "extreme concern" to the Angolan government over Swapo (South West African People's Organization) activity in the border region between Angola and Namibia (South West Africa).

South African and Angolan officials held a meeting on Saturday of a joint commission established 10 days earlier at a conference in Lusaka to monitor the ceasefire.

Botha said that the Angolan government had responded with similar concern and its representatives said they would "consider concrete ways and means of giving effect to the principles of the Lusaka agreement."

South Africa and Angola agreed in Lusaka to a ceasefire in the border region, the site of a 17-year-long bush war. Officials said that in return for a South African military pullback, begun two weeks earlier,

Angola agreed to curtail Swapo activity.

Foreign Minister Botha last week said that when Prime Minister P.W. Botha first announced a military disengagement on January 31, South Africa was aware that 400 Swapo fighters already had begun an offensive. He complained that the force had now grown to 800.

The foreign minister also said on Sunday that Angola and South Africa had agreed to put into effect by Thursday a mechanism to monitor the ceasefire.

South African activist freed after 20 years

DURBAN (Reuters). — A leading Indian political activist, Billy Nair, was released after 20 years in jail yesterday under the watchful eye of a contingent of police, eyewitnesses said.

Nair, jailed for being a leading member of the outlawed African National Congress' armed wing, was met by his wife and well-wishers as police, some in riot gear stood by. Nair spent 18 years of his sentence on Robben Island, in Cape Town's Table Bay, where many of the government's leading non-white political opponents have been sent for political crimes.

Mauritania officially backs Polisario

ALGIERS (AP). — Mauritania yesterday recognized the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic — the political arm of the Polisario guerrilla movement in the Western Sahara — according to official Mauritanian government statements reported here.

The Algerian-backed Polisario has been fighting a protracted war against Morocco for control of the phosphate-rich desert territory, formerly known as the Spanish Sahara.

In 1975, Mauritania sided with Morocco against the Polisario after Spain withdrew from the Western Sahara. Mauritania abandoned its

claims to the area in 1979, but withheld formal recognition of the Polisario's claim to recognition as independent nation.

The issue has deeply split the Organization of African Unity, 26 of whose members recognize the Polisario as the legitimate government of the Western Sahara.

The Dakar, Senegal daily *Le Soleil* reported yesterday that the Mauritanian government had decided to recognize the Polisario because Morocco had failed to implement an OAU resolution calling for a referendum of residents of the disputed territory on their political future.

Tomorrow and Thursday — Haga (Civil Defence) Exercise in Safad, Rehovot, Gedera and Yavneh

Tomorrow and Thursday, February 29 and March 1, there will be a Haga exercise in Safad, Rehovot, Gedera and Yavneh. Haga, police, fire brigade and Magen David Adom personnel will participate. During the exercise, Haga incidents and fires will be staged, and sirens will sound a continuous note (all clear). In the event of a real attack, the sirens will sound a rising and falling note.

Chernenko: USSR is ready for cooperation

MOSCOW. — Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko, echoing past criticism of the U.S., told western leaders yesterday the Soviet Union was ready to settle problems with those who were ready to act practically.

Chernenko, in an open letter replying to congratulations on his election as Communist Party leader, said:

"The Soviet Union... will actively cooperate with all states which are ready to use practical deeds to help reduce international tension, create and strengthen an atmosphere of trust in the world and the development of mutual cooperation of states of all continents."

Like president Yuri Andropov accused the U.S. of deliberately obstructing arms talks and Moscow has said actions are needed more than mild words from Washington.

Chernenko also has taken the post of chairman of the Defence Council, the Soviet Union's top security post, western diplomat sources said yesterday.

Soviet army Chief of Staff Marshal Nikolai Ogarkov, speaking during a Kremlin reception on Soviet Armed Forces Day February 23, referred to Chernenko both as Communist Party general secretary and head of the Defence Council, according to western European military attaches who attended the reception.

Western analysts said Chernenko's new title as head of the Defence Council, a secretive body

that has ultimate authority over Soviet military policy, indicates his position as general secretary is firm.

It was the first time that Chernenko was referred to publicly as chairman of the Defence Council.

Ogarkov's speech was not published in any of the state-controlled newspapers. But several military attaches in attendance at the reception confirmed that Ogarkov had referred to Chernenko as chairman.

In Paris, European Community governments met yesterday to assess the change of leadership in the Soviet Union and the prospects for peace in the Middle East and southern Africa.

Diplomats said seven out of the 10 Community nations were represented by their foreign ministers when the one-day meeting opened under the chairmanship of French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson.

Britain, Italy, and Denmark were represented by junior ministers and officials for the discussion on political cooperation, the first such sessions held since France took over presidency of the community in January.

Officials said the meeting would probably adopt a number of statements drafted by senior officials who met in Paris last week on subjects including East-West relations, the Lebanon conflict, Latin America, and southern Africa. (Reuters, AP).

Trial of Egyptian fundamentalists ends

CAIRO (AP). — The trial of 300 Muslim extremists charged with attempting to overthrow the government ended yesterday and the sentence will be announced July 21.

The defendants belong to a fundamentalist Muslim organization known as Jihad (holy struggle). The Jihad were blamed for the assassination of president Anwar Sadat at a military parade October 6, 1981.

The defendants were indicted in May 1982, and the trial began on December 4, 1982. The prosecutor

has demanded the death penalty for all but three of the defendants. Those three are accused only of supplying arms to the group.

The sentence will be announced on Saturday, July 21, and the general prosecutor will bring all the defendants to attend that session, presiding Judge Abdel-Ghaffar Mohammed Ahmed said at the end of the five-hour session during which three defence lawyers were allowed to present their final documents and remarks.

Model denies she's Prince Andrew's girlfriend

LONDON (AP). — Model Katie Rabbitt has denied she is Prince Andrew's latest flame, saying "we're not having any special relationship."

"I'm a friend of Prince Andrew's — but nothing more," insisted the 23-year-old, who reportedly threw a 24th birthday party for the prince recently.

Meanwhile a second British newspaper published a frontpage photograph of a nude portrait to be Rabbitt, and BBC-TV's breakfast news programme screened the likeness.

Rabbitt said she had posed for photographs for the prince, Queen

Elizabeth II's second son, "for a calendar." But she insisted she has never posed "completely topless" for anyone.

She branded the photo and others published by the *News of the World* on Sunday as "fakes," and her parents said they may take legal action over the pictures allegedly taken two years ago.

The photos show a shapely blonde in soft-focus and half-shadow.

The photographer, Phil Lindsay, claims the pictures "are genuine" and said he took them at Rabbitt's request for a portfolio she was preparing.

Commuters delayed by London bridge mishap

LONDON (AP). — A London bridge has fallen — six centimetres.

The small drop in the road surface of Hammersmith Bridge, a suspension span across the Thames River, forced its closure to traffic, causing commuter delays yesterday.

The trouble occurred when a support cable broke with a loud explosion on Saturday, causing some people in west-central London to fear that a terrorist bomb had gone off.

Hammersmith Bridge, about 180 metres long, carries an average 37,000 vehicles daily, and lies about

10km. west of London Bridge — the span that is fabled in children's stories for falling down.

The original London Bridge was dismantled some years ago and shipped to Arizona.

Sports

Moment of truth for Maccabi tonight

Post Sports Staff

Maccabi Tel Aviv are in trouble. They have represented Israel for nearly two decades in the European Basketball Cup. Now just one more defeat, tonight, would mean not only exclusion from next season's Cup but snuff out any idea of their appearing in European competition at all in 1984-5.

The daunting prospect loomed large following the latest eclipse of the Maccabi talent in Haifa on Sunday night when they went down to their fifth defeat on the local scene this season. Maccabi Haifa were their scourge on this occasion and in particular the magnificent duo James Terry and Greg Cook who notched up 29 and 21 points respectively. The real Haifa hero was Toby Siliat who had the task of controlling Mickey Berkowitz. And curb him he did — to a mere 10 points.

Tonight at Yael Elzhara the two clubs meet in a third time in their quarter final play-off. The winners will qualify for a best-of-three series against Hapoel Haifa next week, with Hapoel Ramat Gan ranged against Hapoel Tel Aviv in the other semifinal play-off series.

Maccabi Tel Aviv have already been eliminated from the State Cup, the winners of which advance to the European Cup Winners' Cup trophy. Two other clubs — normally the second-favourite in the league play-offs — are entitled to play in the Kora Cup. Europe's third most important event.

NBA — Results, Tables

EC Atlantic				
	W	L	Pct	G
Boston	34	14	.704	—
Philadelphia	34	23	.596	9
New York	33	24	.579	10
New Jersey	29	29	.500	14
Washington	26	31	.456	17

EC Central				
	W	L	Pct	G
Milwaukee	34	24	.586	—
Detroit	32	24	.571	1
Atlanta	31	27	.534	3
Chicago	22	33	.400	10
Cleveland	22	34	.393	11
Indiana	18	39	.316	13

WC Midwest				
	W	L	Pct	G
Utah	34	24	.586	—
Dallas	31	27	.534	3
Kansas City	24	32	.429	9
Denver	23	34	.404	9
San Antonio	25	35	.417	10
Houston	22	35	.386	11

EC Pacific				
	W	L	Pct	G
Los Angeles	37	19	.661	—
Portland	35	24	.593	3
Seattle	30	26	.536	6
Golden State	26	32	.448	12
Phoenix	26	32	.448	12
San Diego	20	37	.351	17

Sunday's Games: Philadelphia 99; San Diego 101; Seattle 95; Indiana 102; Portland 100; Detroit 121; Cleveland 109; Boston 116; Phoenix 109.

Italian triumph

Post Sports Staff

Two great performances by Gianni Ocleppo, often regarded as a loner on the tournament scene, and Italian number No. 1 Corrado Barazzutti lifted Italy into the quarter finals of the Davis Cup at the expense of Britain. After Ocleppo's magnificent come-from-behind triumph over John Lloyd, Barazzutti downed Colin Dowdswell (runner-up on last year's Ramat Hasharon Grand Prix) in a marathon four-setter.

Italy thereby earned a place in the quarter final of the Davis Cup in the next round. The other three-quarter final pits Argentina against the U.S. Sweden against Paraguay and France against Czechoslovakia.

SCOREBOARD

BOXING: Rocky Lockridge of the U.S. knocked out champion and computerized Superfly Mayweather in the first round in Texas to capture the WBA junior-lightweight title. SWIMMING: World record holder Mike Goss suffered a stroke defeat on Berlin in the 100m freestyle. Goss was beaten in the 200m freestyle by West Germany. Goss was beaten in the 400m freestyle by Nick Hodgson who led his team to a 104-175 victory at Crystal Palace.

BADMINTON: Denmark's Peter Gade, 3-0, in the final of the Thomas Cup, England 3-4, in the final of the World Cup, England and Sweden, who beat Scotland 4-1 for third place, all qualified for the World Cup to be held in Malaysia later this year.

SOCCER: Morocco qualified for the Olympic Games in Los Angeles by defeating Nigeria 4-3 on penalties. The game, played before a 90,000 crowd in Casablanca, had ended 0-0. ICE HOCKEY: Mark Osborne scored his second goal of the game 1:16 into overtime to give the New York Rangers a 4-3 Sunday night victory over the Pittsburgh Penguins in a National Hockey League game. Other results: Philadelphia 5, NY Islanders 3; Quebec 6, St. Louis 0; Washington 4, Hartford 3; Detroit 4, Chicago 2.



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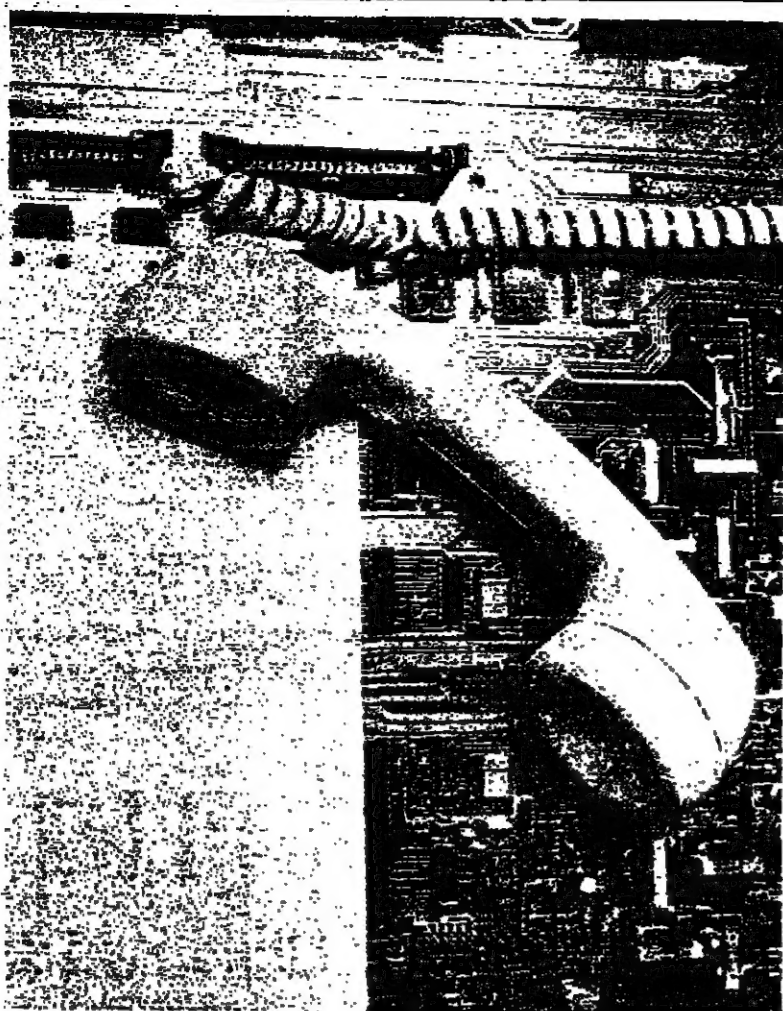
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It's Bezek on the line

By JUDY SIEGEL ITZKOVICH / Jerusalem Post Reporter



(Richard Nowitzki)

Bezek, good morning. May I help you?
Hello. I've moved into a new apartment in Gilo in Jerusalem and would like a telephone installed.
Fine. Would it be convenient if our technician came on Tuesday, the day after tomorrow? In the morning?
Yes. I'll be at home. How much is the installation fee?
Oh, we cancelled that a year ago. Instead, we add a very small fee to each phone call; it's more fair to the small users. Would you like an extension in the bedroom — a pushbutton model — and if so, in beige, ivory, red or blue?
Yes, in beige. Thank you for your help.

THIS CONVERSATION sounds like science fiction to the 250,000 Israelis waiting for a phone to be installed in their homes or offices, when it sometimes takes five to seven years for the technician to arrive. But if the plans of the founders of Bezek, the new public telecommunications company, reach fruition, this kind of pleasant exchange may be a reality in perhaps five years.

The birth of Bezek followed a 12-year pregnancy and a difficult labour, but it finally appeared on the scene on February 1. Communications Minister Mordechai Zipori, the father, and Knesset Economics Committee chairman Gad Ya'acobi, the midwife, were ebullient. The 8,000 ministry employees transferred to Bezek were also very pleased. Sceptics, including Treasury officials worried about decreased government income and demands by other public employees for a similar setup, were less pleased.

The man charged with supervising Bezek's development and progress is Zvi Amid, 52, a brigadier-general in the army reserves who left a 34-year career in the Israel Defence Forces to become Bezek's managing director. Having served for over three years as chief communications officer of the IDF, Amid is a professional in the telecommunications field, and he does not toss around promises and forecasts casually.

He hopes that Bezek will be able to install 130,000 phones a year on average during the coming five years, compared to the Communications Ministry's record of 100,000 annually. Considering the huge backlog and the addition of 70,000 new requests a year, it should take something like five years to make installation a matter of weeks or months in most cases.

NOT STARTING Bezek from zero was an advantage, but also a disadvantage. The public telecommunications company inherited thousands of staffers from the ministry, and they do not have to be retrained. However, they must be reorganized, and their mindsets must be changed from that of state workers to employees of a company that will — in a year — be able to offer incentive bonuses for higher productivity. According to the Bezek agreement, employees will continue to receive the lower wages of civil servants during the first year of operation.

On the other hand, instead of having to deal with the 47 ministry works committees connected with telecommunications, Amid may now negotiate with a single combined one. "I prefer to talk to one strong works committee than have to deal with 47 weak and competing

ones," says Amid, sitting in his office in the former headquarters of the Bank of Israel in Rehov Hasoreg.

Amid adds that it is more difficult to reorganize an institution that already exists rather than to start from scratch. But despite public anger over the general functioning of the telephone network in Israel and the frustrating delays in installations, Israel's system is 19th in the world when measured in terms of phones per 100 people.

There are 1.5 million telephones (actual instruments, including extensions) and 1.1 million lines in the country, or 34 per 100 citizens. That puts Israel in the range of Austria, England and France, but far from the American average of 60 to 70 phones per 100. Still, according to Bezek officials, nearly 80 per cent of Israeli homes have a phone. That is the reason, says Mizrotsky, for the poor connections between area codes and delays during peak hours.

But when a heart patient or a businessman pleads for a phone, it is difficult to tell him to wait until capacity is increased to a reasonable level allowing better service for those who already have phones, he adds.

Bezek would be happy if 85 per cent of the lines in an exchange were free for "regular traffic," but today it is in the high nineties in most places.

often than not ends in a frustrating series of beeps even before one finishes dialling the number.

Bezek's spokesman, Zecharia Mizrotsky, who moved over from the ministry, explains that one can hardly expect U.S.-style phone service in Israel. Israel's telecommunications system is growing at a high rate of 10 per cent annually, while the American system has reached and passed the saturation point, having a much slower growth rate of some 1.5 per cent a year.

SO MUCH PRESSURE was applied on the Communications Ministry over the years to install more phone lines — while it was denied money for investment in infrastructure — that the phone system resembles a four-lane highway whose left emergency lanes are all blocked up with regular traffic. That is the reason, says Mizrotsky, for the poor connections between area codes and delays during peak hours.

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Bezek would be happy if 85 per cent of the lines in an exchange were free for "regular traffic," but today it is in the high nineties in most places.

Amid, well aware of pressures from the public, says that the possibility of receiving investment money from outside can help compensate for the government's failure to invest money in phone infrastructure. Bezek has received investment offers from firms in Israel as well as abroad, but has not yet decided on which one to accept. Bezek will probably begin by accepting investments from "silent partners" who have no say in management decisions. The Communications Ministry will meanwhile make basic policy guidelines and set tariffs and Amid and his board of directors will make day-to-day decisions. But someday, according to Zipori, the company could begin to offer shares on the stock market.

OUTSIDE INVESTORS might be expected to stay away from Israel's problem-ridden phone system. But Bezek officials explain that nowhere in the world is a telephone system operating at a loss. It is a money maker, if run correctly. And the new communications needs of clients — for computer connections and other uses — only increase the potential of profitmaking.

Amid says he hopes increased efficiency by Bezek workers, as well as the use of more sophisticated electronic equipment and the input of investment money, will create big changes in phone service in the coming few years. Callers to 14 or 18, for example, will receive an immediate answer. Phones will be installed after much shorter queues. "We hope to fix all malfunctioning phone lines within 48 hours of receipt of a complaint — instead of doing so in only 70 per cent of such cases today."

Zipori suggested at the inaugural meeting of the board that when Bezek "stands on its own two feet," the installation fee — now about \$200 in shekels — will be abolished and replaced by a tiny fee added to each phone call. Thus infrequent users like retirees would suffer less, and big companies would pay more, in a progressive fashion. This is a possibility, says Amid, but it is too early to determine whether this will be done.

The public company will eventually supply pushbutton electronic phones to customers and not only the dialling models. Amid notes, however, that the old-reliable dialers break down less than the new-fangled pushbuttons, but the public seem to like the latter, as nearly everyone has bought one in a private store for an extension. Bezek will get into it because many of the imported pushbutton models are unauthorized and even dangerous to users, besides discommodating telephone exchanges. In future, anyone who asks Bezek for a repair of trouble caused by unauthorized or unsuitable phones will have to pay for the repair himself, or at least pay for part of it.

Bezek is in the process of unifying the telephone engineering division of the ministry and its telephone services unit. The former actually install the phones and do the infrastructure work, while the telephone services are the bureaucrats that report to the engineering division on applications and handle payments.

Thus, in future, there will be only one address for the phone customer to remember. He will refer all his requests and complaints to one office. This unified approach has existed for nearly two years in the Ra'anana and Kfar Sava area, and will be implemented in Eilat, Ramla-Lod and Ashdod in the very near future. But customers will continue to make out their cheques for phone service to the Communications Ministry until perhaps April, until Bezek's name is printed on the bills and has fully taken over.

Bezek even hopes to institute the "follow me" feature offered abroad, in which a phone customer can "instruct" his phone to direct all incoming calls in his absence to another number.

That all sounds like desert. The 250,000 Israelis waiting for their phones would be happy if Bezek merely serves them the main course.

Signs of alienation

By ROBERT ROSENBERG / Jerusalem Post Reporter

THE DEMONSTRATORS outside the Prime Minister's Office were not much different from dozens of similar groups that have stood in the same place during the past year.

A group of reserve soldiers, just back from a harrowing 40 days in Lebanon, together with the army since 1965 and with the unconsciously secret, or private, ways that soldiers together for so long and through so much learn to communicate with one another.

And disillusionment on their faces was as etched as the wrinkles at the corners of their eyes: 40-year-old men who remember their innocence as young soldiers, their ideals and naive. And, now, having served in Lebanon, they were different.

This is how they expressed it: "It was the alienation we felt when we landed in helicopters and saw that nobody in Dizengoff even cares there's a war on, let alone knows there's a war."

"It was the way six of our guys were treated at the hospital. Not the medical treatment, but the way the bureaucracy didn't seem to care very much."

"It was the cynicism of the young soldiers, the ones who at our age should be asking the thousand and one question. But not at theirs."

"It was the corruption we saw, the way Lebanon is turning the army into a real-life version of M.A.S.H."

"It was the pointlessness of it all, the lack of policy the lack of anything."

FOR AN HOUR they stood in the sun — these men who insisted they had no ulterior political motives, only the desire to somehow let the government know that they are fed up, and want their friends still up there in the snowy lonely posts or patrolling the rubble-filled streets of Lebanon, to come home.

They didn't have much hope that anybody would read their petition.

Last-minute job

MUSIC
Esther Reuter

ISRAELI PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA, Sir John Pritchard conducting, with Ilan Rechtman, piano. (Herta and Paul Amirson, February 22). Brahms: Concerto No. 1 for piano and orchestra, op. 15; Beethoven: Symphony No. 7 in A Major, op. 92.

FOR BOTH conductor Sir John Pritchard and pianist Ilan Rechtman this was a last-minute assignment, replacing Lorin Maazel who was forced by sudden illness to cancel his appearance. So, undoubtedly, lack of adequate rehearsal was the reason for some of the shortcomings in the presentation of the programme, including the cooperation between the solo and the orchestra parts.

Ilan Rechtman is a young, gifted musician. However, the choice of the Brahms was largely over-ambitious. His rendition displayed technical abilities and feeling but his tone, mostly delicate, lacked vigour and sonority to reflect the changing moods of the composition. The opening *maestoso* emerged best; his accentuation of the polyphonic texture made the performance heavy, particularly in the slow movement, and the concluding *rondo* lacked daring and sparkle.

Sir John Pritchard led the IPO with clear, large and illustrative directives but the playing of the Beethoven showed a lack of concentration and heaviness especially in the first two movements of the symphony.

There was better *esprit de corps* and additional drive in the presentation of the impetuous *scherzo*, and the tumultuous finale was executed with a dash and spontaneity winning a warm and prolonged applause from the audience.

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March 7-13, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 2-4 p.m.; on Friday, March 9, there will be a morning session only.

The masterclass is intended to help young pianists, who are interested in pursuing a career other than the virtuoso type, and who are interested in the vocal literature, to acquire some understanding of the art of accompaniment for singers and instrumentalists. Mr. Eliassen will also work with students wishing to acquire the profession of coach, and will work with singers on a large and varied repertoire (chosen by the students) — lieder and opera. The course will include discussions of the vocal literature.

Mikael Eliassen has worked as an accompanist and coach with such artists as Tom Krause, Robert Merrill, Theodor Uppman, Sheila Armstrong, Bernadette Greevy, Eugene Conley, Judith Raskin, Mira Zakai and many others.

Those wishing to participate in the course are requested to register at the Centre, in writing or by phone, specifying their experience and particular interests, as soon as possible.

Musicians, students and music lovers are cordially invited to attend the public sessions.

* Programme subject to last minute changes.

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Euphoric mood of unreality

Tel Aviv Stock Exchange

By JOSEPH MORGENSTERN

No one seemed to be left out from the euphoric mood of unreality which enveloped the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange yesterday. It will be recalled that the move to the new quarters on Ahad Ha'am took place during the bear market of 1983. Until the only excitement had been the bank share debacle of October 1983, and that certainly was from being a happy occasion. Yesterday, however, all thoughts of political problems or the difficulties facing the economy were left aside. The magnificently rising market cast an almost near-hypnotic spell, as prices spiralled higher and higher.

Turnovers crossed the IS1.0 billion mark, and bankers and brokers began to count up their commissions from the increased activity. Investors, on the other hand, were using their paper profits, and could not fail to recall the early days of the 1982 bull market. How long the market rampage will last is anyone's guess, but at least for the time being most investors agree that it still has some way to go before it runs out of steam. Supporting this is the high level of financial liquidity, which is aided by a willingness on the part of the public to make commitments to the share market.

Bank of Israel mid-month statistics pointed to an overhang of the IS17 billion in shekel and dollar deposits. Only a very small portion of this, if applied to share purchases, could continue to fuel the current market rise.

There is little doubt that soon there shall have a new breed of millionaires if current market conditions prevail for much longer, said a portfolio manager.

And there is no doubt that for many years are being made. A case in point was the 38.4 per cent rise in the Israel Corporation 5 shares. Early issues have risen by more than 30 per cent over the past three sessions and yesterday 15 per cent gains were not at all rare. Moreover, 67 securities were ranked as "buyers only" for the second consecutive session. These old explode upwards today as all trading restrictions are removed.

High technology issues returned

to vogue and were led by Clal Electronics with a 14.7 per cent gain. Elron chipped in with a 7 per cent rise.

Investment company issues were among the session's best performers. The outstanding gain was recorded by the Israel Corporation 5 shares, which soared by no less than 38.4 per cent. There were more than a handful of 15 per cent gainers and these included IDB Development, Incobeta 0.1 and 0.5, Ampa 0.5, Leumi Investments, Clal Israel 0.5, Galil Technology and Pama 0.1.

The oil issues were real "gushers" as prices shot up. North American Oil 1 shares were 21.1 per cent higher, while the option was 26.1 per cent higher. Delek Oil Exploration 1 was "buyers only" for the second day, while the 5 shares were picking up 15 per cent. Naphta, along with a handful of other oil equities, was up by 10 per cent.

The index-linked bond market was on the upside, with gains of 3-5 per cent visible among the various groups. However, the level of activity slackened considerably and fell to IS542.5 million.

The shekel was devalued by 161 agorot, against the dollar.

No fewer than 67 securities were listed as "buyers only" for the second consecutive time.

Most active stocks	Volume	Value	Change
Hapoalim	3635	142,649m.	+150
Leumi	2320	124,029m.	+120
IDB	5255	46,648m.	+120
Shares traded:		IS1,230.6m.	
Convertible:		IS30.0m.	
Bonds:		IS542.5m.	

Bank of Israel exchange rates

February 27, 1984	IS
U.S. dollar	135.47
British sterling	198.17
German mark	51.318
French franc	16.613
Dutch guilder	45.452
Swiss franc	62.191
Norwegian krona	17.211
Danish krone	13.995
Finnish mark	23.808
Canadian dollar	108.12
Australian dollar	127.71
South African rand	112.33
Belgian franc (100)	25.066
Austrian schilling (100)	72.755
Italian lire (100)	82.785
Japanese yen (100)	58.057
Irish pound	157.69
Spanish peseta (100)	89.520
Jordanian dinar	360.35
Lebanese lira	22.120
Egyptian pound	117.86

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FOREIGN CURRENCY
Yesterday's foreign exchange rates against the Israeli Shekel, for U.S. dollar transactions under \$5,000 and transactions of other currencies under the equivalent of \$500.

Country	Currency	Purchase	Sale
USA	DOLLAR	134.601	136.309
GERMANY	MARK	51.327	51.667
FRANCE	FRANC	16.567	16.704
HOLLAND	GILDEN	45.1173	45.6803
SWITZERLAND	FRANC	61.6918	62.4616
SWEDEN	KRONA	17.0807	17.2938
NORWAY	KRONE	17.7483	17.9698
DENMARK	KRONE	17.7483	17.9698
FINLAND	KRONE	23.6649	23.9603
CANADA	DOLLAR	107.3434	108.6827
AUSTRALIA	DOLLAR	126.8898	128.4730
SOUTH AFRICA	RAND	111.8375	113.2330
BELGIUM	FRANC	24.9222	25.2332
AUSTRIA	SCHILLING	72.2264	73.1278
ITALY	LIRE	82.3425	83.7900
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Hotels, Tourism	Volume	Value	Change
Gale Zohar	229	150	+50
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Textiles and Clothing	Volume	Value	Change
Offit	70	10	+7
Offit	70	10	+7
Offit	70	10	+7
Offit	70	10	+7
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Textiles and Clothing	Volume	Value	Change
Offit	70	10	+7
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Ari Rath
Editor and
Managing Director

THE JERUSALEM
POST

Erwin Frenkel
Editor

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Adar-I 25, 5744 • Jamadi Awwal 25, 1404

Prolonged discontent

IT TOOK THE cabinet two weeks to decide not to decide on any pullback from the Awali River line, and to wait for the dust in Lebanon to settle, as it were, before considering redeployment.

What it is that must clear up before Israel can start moving is itself not very clear. The fate of the Israel-Lebanon agreement is already sealed. President Amin Gemayel is reported to be going around likening the May 17 pact to a corpse that only needs burial. There is not a chance in the world that the document can be resurrected and made the basis of enduring relations between Israel and its northern neighbour.

This should rightly be the initial premise of any policy, but evidently it is not.

Israel's staying on the Awali will not strengthen Mr. Gemayel's hand in bargaining with the rebel Druse and Shi'ite militias, as some people in Jerusalem apparently believe it might. Mr. Gemayel's survival depends entirely on his ability to accommodate the political interests of the non-Christian communities — and to satisfy Syrian demands. The basic Syrian demand is the abrogation, one way or another, of the pact with Israel.

It is also a mistake to assume that, by digging in along the Awali, Israel will undo the damage, such as the U.S. believes has been done, by the IDF's withdrawal from the Shouf. If the lesson for the Syrians of that earlier withdrawal was that Lebanon is, in Israel's eyes, ultimately dispensable, then that lesson will not now be erased by a show of Israeli resolution. Plainly Lebanon is not Eretz Yisrael.

Yet by staying indefinitely on the Awali the IDF will be creating a new area of Israeli occupation in which its standing as occupier is bound to be highly ambiguous. Although this country has not laid out a claim of historical right to any portion of Lebanon, the local, mostly Shi'ite, population in the south may come to interpret its presence in the area as an assertion to title to territory.

Already much of what little measure of friendship Israel has managed to build up among these southern Lebanese since the start of Operation Peace for Galilee appears to have been wiped out in the quest for safety for the troops that are there to assure the security of Galilee. "South Lebanon was tense yesterday (Saturday) and Friday following a number of arrests by Israeli soldiers in the area," was the opening of a news report in this newspaper on Sunday, detailing an event in Maraka, a Shi'ite village east of Tyre.

"Eyewitnesses," the report added, "said that a large Israeli force, including helicopters and ambulances, took part in the raid. The whole area, including other nearby villages, was closed to traffic." The raid was followed by a bitter tiff with Unifil and the Red Cross.

Those adversely affected by such security measures number some of the very Israeli troops who are supposed to be its beneficiaries. A demonstration by 35 reserve paratroopers, just returned from a stint in Lebanon, outside the Prime Minister's Office on Sunday signalled some of the bitter discontent among soldiers stationed across the northern border. What they discovered over there was not a sense of peace, but the corruption and weakening of Israel's army.

These facts are not entirely unknown to cabinet ministers. One minister, Deputy Premier David Levy, is making no secret of his view that Israel has already gained as much as it could in Lebanon, and that its continued stay there is counterproductive. But the majority of his colleagues prefer to wait.

Ill-advised protest

THE UNIVERSITY students boycotting two hours of classes today to protest against the planned rise in tuition fees would be well-advised to ponder the fact that very few of their number took advantage this year of the system of loans and scholarships devised two years ago by the Katzav Committee.

The Council for Higher Education has concluded from this and other data that most students are relatively well-off and can afford the doubling of tuition fees to \$1,200 that it has proposed — especially when this is accompanied by a generous expansion of loans and scholarships for all students under 30, regardless of income.

The negotiations between the Treasury, the students and the Council over increasing tuition fees have made little progress over the last several months, due mainly to the students' reluctance to accept the principle that some increase is necessary, given the perilous state of university finances. Understandably, the students would prefer to maintain the formula devised by the Katzav Committee, which was signed by the three parties to the current talks and was supposed to be binding for five years.

But given the financial hardship falling now on practically every sector of society — including working mothers who must pay a large chunk of their salaries for day-care, and low-income families faced with the proposed school fee — the students can hardly avoid shouldering their share of the burden.

Illusions in Lebanon

By ASHER MANIV

IT WAS, I believe, Lord Salisbury who wrote: "If you believe the doctors, nothing is wholesome; if you believe the theologians, nothing is innocent; if you believe the generals, nothing is safe."

In Israel's case, it is not the generals, but rather their present political masters who out-general them. Unless we remain in Lebanon "for a very long time," they say, Galilee will not be safe.

But then, of course, a debatable issue, at least as far as comparative safety is concerned. The spectre of Katyushas immediately following Israel's withdrawal is rather unconvincing, when one bears in mind that Katyushas fell on Galilee only two weeks ago, and that no amount of Katyushas ever killed as many Israelis as the war in Lebanon. And the heavy toll of life goes on.

But then, by the same logic of "nothing is safe unless..." they go on to say that in order to protect Israel's hold on Southern Lebanon, we must send troops north of the Awali line, as well as bomb "terrorist installations." Tomorrow, or the day after, the same logic will compel them to fight Shi'ites, Druse or even Syrians "in order to protect our planes and our patrols north of the Awali" — and so on, for ever and ever.

LET THERE be no mistake about it: the case against IDF sorties north of the Awali does not rest on the assumption (popular among doves, but actually weakening their case) that we may fight only in defensive action. The Lebanon war has confused the necessary distinction between offensive or military initiative and what Menachem Begin calls "wars of alternative." The Six Day War was a perfect example of justified preemptive offensive, but it was that exactly because there was no alternative. The war in Lebanon itself and the present actions north of the Awali are, in Begin's phrase,

"wars of alternative," because their initiators imagine that the military alternative will bear political fruit, over and above what military action is capable of achieving in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Here is the real chasm between two opposing security doctrines. Not that one believes in taking the initiative, while the other one restricts itself to deterrence and defence — but that the "war of alternatives" doctrine believes that we can achieve our aims by means of war, while in the past we had always realized that all that war can do is to prevent the enemy from achieving his aims. No small matter that — our very existence depends on it; but it also implies that because of the nature of the conflict, there are limits to the effective use of force beyond the aims of survival.

Our government prided itself on "destroying the terrorist infrastructure" in Southern Lebanon; but no war can possibly abolish the national aspirations of the Palestinian people, and as long as those exist, the problem cannot be solved by military actions. Israel succeeded in destroying the atomic reactor in Baghdad, but as long as we cannot remove the motivation for its erection, the nuclear danger continues to exist. Indeed, we won resounding (and until Lebanon) decisive victories in all our wars, but all they could achieve — actually, all they were meant to achieve — was to prevent the enemy from achieving his aims.

The reason for this lies in the very nature of our war aims. Unlike the Arabs, we could never entertain an absurd idea of destroying all our enemies (100 million Arabs in vast territories). And short of that, there is no way of imposing our will on the other side by the use of force. Our aims are reconciliation, peaceful co-existence, recognition of the existence of the Jewish State — and these cannot be forced. Military

strength may help to convince our opponents that Israel is an established fact, but its use cannot by itself be an "alternative" to other elements of conflict resolution (deterrence, negotiation, efforts to remove suspicion, compromise, etc.).

THE PRESENT raids and military patrols north of the Awali are motivated by the same mistaken idea as the Lebanon war itself — that it is possible for our military force to play a political role in the resolution of the conflict.

For what other reason can there be?

Israel Defence Forces positions on the Awali are in no way threatened by the advance of the Shi'ite and Druse forces; and in spite of recurring attempts by our politicians and the media to paint a threatening picture of vast amounts of terrorists returning to territories bordering our positions, reports from abroad indicate no such thing. On the contrary, Shi'ites and Druse are careful to keep them within bounds as much as possible.

Deterrence? From what? Surely not direct attack, which none of the participants in the Lebanese scramble even dream about. And as for terrorist attacks in the south, clearly those are not prevented by military action in the north. Patrols on the road to Beirut have no effect on terrorists — they just expose the men of the patrols themselves to probable terrorist attacks. Let us hope that we don't have to wait for casualties among the patrols to understand their futility. As for air raids, when we moved into Lebanon almost two years ago, we were told (in this case, correctly), that bombing had proved inefficient. So what is the point of it now?

The only logical reasons for our intervention in the Lebanese civil war (and that is what it is) are political ones. Our political leadership has apparently learned

Dry Bones



nothing. They still believe that Israeli military force can influence a "new order" in Lebanon. Defence Minister Moshe Arens loves to appear in the cloak of responsible statesmanship, but secretly he seems to envy Arik Sharon, Yitzhak Shamir offers a different tone from his predecessor, but his actions prove him to have the same illusions as Mr. Begin.

ONE CANNOT, however, avoid the suspicion that there may be an additional motive: to keep the world, the Arab countries and the Israeli public itself busy with the continuing war in Lebanon. As long as that occupies all our minds, there will be no need to deal with the thornier (but much more important) problem of the West Bank and the Palestinians. In the eyes of the Likud, nothing is more desirable than perpetuation of the present impasse, while at the same time voicing pious statements about

readiness to negotiate with King Hussein. Negotiate on what? On keeping the territories?

Here the moderates of this country face a difficult dilemma. If they continue to concentrate all attention on the Lebanese issue, they might well be playing into the government's hands. But if they call the government's bluff and try to transfer public attention to the more important long-range question of continuing the peace process with Jordan and the Palestinians, it might be at the expense of the more immediate objective of getting our soldiers out of Lebanon and, above all, to avoid further bloodshed.

There is, therefore, no alternative for moderates but to fight a two-front battle. At least, let us be constantly aware that we may not neglect either issue.

The writer is a fellow of the Yad Tabenkin Research Institute of the United Kibbutz Movement.

On freedom of expression

By SHEVAH WEISS

When the management of the Haifa Theatre decided to comply with the appeal by the president of the state to delete several caustic comments, addressed straight to God, from the text of the play *The Messiah*, a storm erupted.

One of the Theatre's actresses appeared in front of the audience before the curtain went up and read a short protest: "We consider the interference of the establishment a serious blow to the freedom of expression in Eretz Yisrael." "Eretz Yisrael" was repeated twice — not "the State of Israel." The use of the term seemed to be deliberate.

If it is Eretz Yisrael we are referring to, then I should like to remind the honourable actress that there has been no freedom of expression in Eretz Yisrael for some 17 years — and since 1977 the situation has worsened progressively.

In Eretz Yisrael — in Judea, Samaria and Gaza — there are about 1,300,000 human beings, (and I hope the friends of Eretz Yisrael recognize the Arabs as human beings) living under military rule, which by its very nature suppresses any glimmer of freedom of expres-

sion and other civil rights. Thus, if one is arguing about freedom of expression throughout Eretz Yisrael, and complains about interference with it in the Haifa Theatre or any other Israeli theatre, while deliberately disregarding what is going on in Judea, Samaria and Gaza, one is guilty of hypocrisy.

BUT THIS is not where hypocrisy ends. Many of my good friends have condemned the loud outcry which came from the religious public about the use of words of abuse and profanity with reference to God. The religious public has been accused of Khomeinism, which is a favourite motif in our budding *Kulturkampf*. But in the same breath we, the people of the left and radical liberals, seek to dismiss any minister or public figure who has uttered words of condemnation

against us. Thus, concern for absolute freedom of expression is not absolute; it is, in fact, extremely selective.

I myself do not support absolute freedom of expression. Furthermore, I would like to have a law passed prohibiting absolutely the use of racial expressions. Anyone who calls my Ishmaelite neighbour a "dirty Arab" or refers to them all as "drugged cockroaches," or anyone who says that "a good Arab is a dead Arab," must be made to pay a heavy penalty for his corrupting racist activity. I would apply the same criteria to goyim who speak of "dirty Jews." I advocate imposing the most severe penalties, including imprisonment, on any active racist.

IF A GOY were to curse the God of the Jews, we would all be up in

arms, accusing him of anti-Semitism. So why are we so eager to defend a Jew who curses his own God and thus tortures the soul of a believing Jew, and damn the latter for crying out in pain? It is not a question of equality — though I certainly demand tolerance for the religious public towards that part of the population which is secular like myself.

I do not believe in a superficial, automatic and shallow equality. Yet I maintain that the secular public should make an effort to understand the souls of the believers. Their faith in God is complete and without compromise. It is the same God who represents the basic values and principles of all Jews — those values and principles which are unique to us and which have seen us through our long and tortured history.

Therefore I congratulate President Herzog on his appeal to the Haifa Theatre, and the theatre on its compliance with that appeal — though it could have been done with more grace. But let us not confuse this very specific case with the "shutting of mouths."

The religious public is no more justified in wanting to shut the mouth of the author of *The Messiah* than we are in trying to stop it from crying out against the abuse of God. We are no more justified in wanting to shut the mouth of Arik Sharon than he is in trying to shut ours. What must not be said publicly should be laid down in the statute book. And it will do none of us any harm if we try to refrain from using terms of abuse which torture the souls of our fellow citizens. Above all: let us avoid hypocrisy and double standards.

Perhaps there will now be those, even among my closest friends, who will call for the shutting of my mouth, too.

The writer, a Labour M.K., teaches political science at Haifa University.

READERS' LETTERS

"NORMALCY" IN JEWISH-GERMAN RELATIONS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post: Sir, — In your reports on the recent state visit of Chancellor Kohl to your country, you mention that our government spokesman, Mr. Boenisch, said "that the terrible events of Auschwitz should not be exploited for political issues" and that the relations between our two states "must be normal." As a German I would like to dissociate myself from such official statements. I know that the best we can have for a long time to come is an understanding based on the Adenauer-Ben-Gurion agreement.

The claim for "normalcy" has a very bitter and strange tradition. One step towards this type of "normalcy" was a public statement by Professor Unsöld of Kiel, "that the crimes of Haber and Einstein were no less than those of Hitler." Afterwards, this nonsense was published at length in the *Physikalische Blätter*, the leading journal of the German physics community distributed all over the world. Unsöld blamed Einstein for the atom bomb and Hiroshima;

completely forgetting that during World War II his physics department in Kiel was a prominent place to build the same bomb for Hitler.

As this type of argument is apparently considered in Germany a new form of "normalcy," nothing happened. In November 1983, Gerhard Jahn, MdB, former federal minister of justice and long-standing friend of Israel, said in a public lecture organized by the Christian-Jewish Society in Marburg that the above-mentioned slander on Einstein was "hidden" anti-Semitism.

Only Professor Kempner, known from the post-war days in Nürnberg, wrote the truth about this anti-Einstein attack and called it *Volksverhetzung*, i.e. a Nazi-crime. When not only Jewish people reject Unsöld's anti-Semitism, but all Germans request compliance with German law, which outlaws Nazis, only then may there be a chance to begin discussion of "normalcy."

Professor REINHARD BRANDT
Marburg, Germany.

INVESTING YOUR MONEY

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post: Sir, — Yitzhak Taub comments that "those people who still have money left want to preserve its real value and they are at a loss about how to do it" (February 21). This is not correct. Those people concerned about the preservation of their capital know that they can put their money into saving schemes or bank accounts linked to the dollar or to the index and that this will preserve the real value of their money.

It is only those people who want to do more than preserve the real value of their capital who are in need of the type of professional advice that is advocated. However, no professional advice, no matter how good, can take the risk out of speculative investments, and equities and options by their very nature come into this category, bank

shares included, although not those subject to the agreement.
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WESTERN GUARANTEES

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post: Sir, — For many years various American personalities have argued that Israel should trade militarily defensible borders for a peace based on international guarantees. Some Americans went so far as to say that they were insulted by Israel's refusal to rely on them for their security.

Recent events in Lebanon once

again demonstrate that the West cannot be relied upon to honour its commitments when conditions are trying. We must remind the West that they cannot expect us to accept Western power in lieu of strategic power when time and again the ephemeral nature of Western commitments is revealed.

AARON LERNER
Petah Tikva.

DISCLAIMER

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post: Sir, — With reference to your article of February 7, "Misplaced spotlight on Safad," I would like to point out that my husband Bernard Woolf (who is at present overseas) has never been a member of the *haredi* sect.

TAUBE WOOLF
Safad.

POSTSCRIPTS

OMVY NATHAN, a 27-year-old Egyptian-born millionaire, paid £4,700 recently for two tiny islands off the west coast of Scotland.

Nathan said after the London auction that he likes to buy "relics of British history."

He already has a disused Welsh lead mine, which cost him £6,000 last year, and he is negotiating to buy Hadlow Castle in Kent for £120,000.

The windswept islands off the coast of Lewis in the Western Isles, sold by the Caltos estate, are uninhabited and often covered by

seaspray. Auctioneer John Bagnet warned would-be bidders that the islands are not picturesque. "They are just rocks," he said. "and one of them is probably smaller than this auction room." Bidding started at £1 and both islands were sold in 10 minutes.

Nathan, a bachelor who lives in London, said he had been to Scotland twice but has never seen his islands.

"I do have certain links with the country because my father is a Presbyterian minister in Egypt, and Scotland was the home of John Knox, the founder of the faith," he said.

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of

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and

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will take place on Thursday, March 1, 1984 at 4.00 p.m.
in the Churchill Auditorium, the Technion, Haifa.

A visit to the grave of
AARON GUTWIRTH
on the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem
will take place on Sunday, March 4, 1984, at 10.00 a.m. We will meet at the cemetery entrance
opposite the Intercontinental Hotel.

مجلس منحة